

# JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. XVI No. III



MARCH, 1961

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# BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

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Membership of the Society is open to all who are interested in the furtherance of its object.

There is an entrance fee of one guinea (£1 1s.) for all who join (\$3 for those in North America) and an annual subscription of £1 10s. for Home Members and £1 for Overseas Members (\$3 for those in North America).

The Society's working year starts on July 1st.

Further particulars can be obtained from:

The Assistant Secretary, British Society of Dowsters  
York House, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2. Tel. : Holborn 0805



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## NOTICES

**Members are reminded that a Congress at Moor Park College is to be held from Tuesday, June 6th, to Thursday, June 8th. As all the rooms available were not occupied at the Congress last year, it is hoped that there will be room for a few guests on this occasion.**

\* \* \* \*

Overseas members who come to England are asked to inform the Assistant Secretary, saying whether they would be prepared to lecture to the Society on their dowsing experiences abroad.

\* \* \* \*

Members are reminded of the proposal to start an independent Trust Fund for the purpose of providing capital to assist in financing the overhead charges necessary for the satisfactory running of the Society.

A letter on this matter was sent out with the December number. Further copies of the letter are available, and the Assistant Secretary would be glad to hear of any non-member who might be interested.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Bruce Copen, of The Lodge, Brantridge Forest, Balcombe, Sussex, is holding an Exhibition of Radiesthesia and Radionics, Dowsing books and apparatus, on the four days, May 5th to 8th, 1961. Admission will be free by ticket. Applications for tickets should be sent to Mr. Copen at the above address.

\* \* \* \*

The Editor would be grateful if members, especially those living abroad, would send extracts to him concerning radiesthesia and dowsing which appear in local papers, giving *the name of the paper* and the *date of issue*.



The price of the *Journal* to non-members is now 6s. post free. The price to members of new journals in excess of the free number is 4s., and of back numbers 2s.

\* \* \* \*

The Title Page and Contents of Volume XV of the *Journal* can be obtained gratis from the Editor on application.

\* \* \* \*

The following books have been added to the library :—  
*Radionics, Theory and Practice*, by John Wilcox, M.A. ; 110 pages.  
*Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Radionic Association Ltd.*, held in 1959 and 1960 ; in duplicated volumes of 74 and 103 pages respectively.

\* \* \* \*

Members taking books from the Library are requested to return them within a month or to ask for an extension.

In making payment (in stamps) for postage of books, or for other purposes, it is requested that values higher than 4d. should not be sent.

\* \* \* \*

Six free copies of the *Journal* will be given, on request, to writers of articles in it, in addition to the usual copy.

\* \* \* \*

Badges can now be obtained from the Honorary Secretary at 4s. each, post free.

\* \* \* \*

Contributions for the *Journal*, preferably in typescript, should be sent to the Editor, at least *seven* weeks before the first day of March, June, September and December, if they are to appear in the respective journals for those months.

\* \* \* \*

Communications for the Editor, and inquiries, should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, York House, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2.



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The following should have been shown as Life Members in the complete list of members : DUNN, A. S., FRANKS, V., GODFREY, Dr. E. L.

Miss J. M. HENDLEY has become Mrs. J. M. CAMPBELL.

### RESIGNED

ANDREAE, Mrs. C. V.

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# SOME IDEAS AND PROPOSALS FOR RESEARCH ON DOWSING AND RADIESTHESIA

BY ALAN MAYNE, M.A., B.Sc., F.S.S.

*A lecture delivered to the British Society of Dowsters on February 24th,  
1961*

## INTRODUCTION

The recent progress of dowsing and radiesthesia has been very disappointing. Little advance has been made towards a scientific understanding of its phenomena during the past few decades, though some of its more dangerous misconceptions about them have been cleared away. About ten years ago most people interested in these fields, including myself, thought that we were on the threshold of remarkable new advances, just about to be made, yet this promise has not been fulfilled. In spite of the claims being put forward at that time about new techniques in radionics and hitherto unsuspected types of dowsing reaction, there have been few genuinely original developments since then.

Why have there been so few results in recent years, in spite of all the efforts that have been made? Why has this research been so fruitless that the methods of dowsing and radiesthesia are threatened with stagnation and perhaps decay if this sad situation continues? I will try to answer these questions in my talk to-day. In particular, I will point out the need for a thorough overhaul of the methods of research in these subjects, whose difficulty has been considerably underestimated in the past. I will also call for a tightening up of scientific standards all round. If these conditions are fulfilled, there will at last be a good chance that important progress will again be made.

I will then outline my proposals for a new and improved research programme, stressing especially the very significant help that can be given by modern scientific methods and techniques, as well as providing examples of the types of experiment and observation that are most likely to be fruitful.

## THE PRESENT CRISIS IN DOWSING AND RADIESTHESIA

*The first reason for the present difficulties is that there are still far too few people who are interested in a really scientific investigation of it. On the one hand, few scientists are willing to attempt serious work in it, partly because of its inherent difficulties, and partly because the evidence for its claims is still inadequate by scientific standards. On the other hand, dowsters and radiesthetists tend to view the phenomena as so "obviously true," just because they seem to occur in their own personal experience, that they overlook the need for their scientific verification; far too many of them consider that the methods that they use at present*



are "good enough" and are thus rather uninterested in possible new methods, let alone in collaborating in scientific experiments.

*Having viewed "both sides of the fence," I can sympathise with many of the characteristic attitudes among both these groups of people.* The typical scientist wants to make a contribution, worthwhile even if not spectacular, to a branch of knowledge or to the development of techniques, where he *knows* that results of practical importance are very likely to be obtained. He cannot be expected to risk his scientific life and reputation on a field where the evidence is still so shaky and vague that he could be seriously misled on occasion and where the experiments are so unreliable that he could well spend several years of continued research without any positive results at all. On the other hand, the dowser or radiesthetist also believes that he can apply his skills to do a practical job of work, such as finding underground water or minerals, diagnosing and healing an illness, improving the performance of his crops. He does not understand why the scientists cannot accept his results at their face value, nor does he see why he should go out of his way to keep extra-careful records or spend precious time on experiments, just to convince these scientists.

*Of course, both these groups have their faults as well as their virtues.* The scientist, not having first-hand experience of the subject and usually having no time even to begin to study it adequately, jumps all too readily to the conclusion that there is nothing in it and that it is nonsense and superstition. The human sensitive rarely has much conception of the standards of scientific evidence or methods, and must on innumerable occasions be a victim of his own self-deception and sometimes also of the frauds perpetrated by unscrupulous operators. In fact, the truth probably lies roughly halfway between these two extremes; *it seems that genuine phenomena, beyond the range of the contemporary scientific framework, do lie behind many, though not all, the claims made by dowsers and radiesthetists, but that these phenomena are usually seriously misinterpreted by them.*

One important question may already have occurred to you, after what I have just said. *If the human sensitive is so confident that he can obtain results of practical value, why is the scientific investigator so afraid that his experiments with the sensitive will be miserable failures?* The answer to this question provides the second reason for the crisis in dowsing and radiesthesia. It seems to be true that a sensitive is usually able to work well only in conditions that are natural to him, and also that the majority of scientific experiments on dowsing and radiesthesia have so far been carried out in more or less unnatural conditions. Scientists too often do not realise that their sceptical attitude may inhibit the operation of the sensitive's faculties. Even when it does not do this, other "artificial" requirements, needed to ensure the collection of adequate evidence, may cause the sensitive to operate well below



his best level ; apparently, he only works properly when the conditions of the situation *as a whole* are delicately balanced. The sensitives, in their turn, may be overconfident at first, and then be dismayed when they find that they "cannot do their stuff" in the experimental situation ; they then do not wish to take part in further tests. I will return to this problem later on and will try to suggest some approaches to its solution.

*The third reason for the crisis is that insufficiently powerful scientific methods have as yet been applied to researches on these subjects.* I will shortly show how modern advances can come to the rescue here.

*The fourth reason for the crisis is that inadequate resources are available to those people who wish to carry out or help in genuinely scientific investigations of dowsing or radiesthesia.* I will not discuss to-day how such resources of money, time and personal assistance might be obtained. I will merely point out here that they ought to be much more readily forthcoming, once a preliminary high-quality scientific investigation has yielded some positive objective results ; and I express the hope that the controllers of large collections of scientific funds will at last turn their attention to these subjects and give them the support that they deserve.

Having given my views on the contemporary situation, I will now turn to my main subject—ideas and proposals for research—which I will divide into three groups : theory, method and experiment. In a balanced research programme, all three of these aspects have a vital part to play.

#### SOME PROPOSALS FOR THEORETICAL RESEARCH

I have already made some suggestions about possible theories of dowsing and radiesthesia in my previous talk to this Society (15). Because of this and because I have not since then made significant progress in developing these ideas, I will only summarise them very briefly here.

I believe that the best way of creating an adequate theory of the subject is to start by developing new mathematical tools, especially in non-linear mathematics and the mathematics of pattern. The next stage is to construct new mathematical models which use these new concepts ; the generalised resonance models (already foreshadowed vaguely in the radionic theories of about ten years ago) seem to be the most promising class of models for this purpose. The third stage is to apply these models to produce accurate pictures of the nature of the phenomena of dowsing and radiesthesia, and to suggest experiments on them, which are not only likely to provide positive results but which will also yield accurately assessable evidence if successful together with decisive tests of the models.

Only two such mathematical models, those of Marshall (14) and Wassermann (25), have both been proposed in any detail and show



reasonable promise of explaining some of the phenomena of dowsing and radiesthesia, though they have not yet been applied specifically to these subjects. However, several recent speculations in quantum theory may also turn out to be relevant.

#### THE APPLICATION OF MODERN SCIENTIFIC METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

Modern scientific advances have made it possible to achieve improved standards of research in most branches of scientific study, including research on dowsing and radiesthesia.

Recent advances in mathematics have given scope for increasingly refined theoretical investigations in any branch of knowledge, and will play an important part in developing the details of hypotheses after they have been formulated.

Mathematical statistics can be applied to tabulating and assessing observational and experimental evidence, to making inferences from it, and to designing experiments. Recently, a statistical decision theory has been developed, which should soon provide a valuable aid in planning the strategy of whole programmes of research. Information theory and communication theory can suggest methods of detection of elusive phenomena.

*Electronic computers and data-processing equipment have already made it possible to carry out at high speed and with very great reliability not only theoretical calculations and statistical computations but also complete analyses of experimental and observational data and assessments of evidence.* The fastest machines available to-day could already in principle prepare a full-length research report from the raw data in a matter of *minutes*, and the state of computer technology is still advancing rapidly! Data can be presented to these machines in the form of punched paper tape and cards, typed from the records of the observations, and also, at least in theory if not always in practice, directly from automatic recording instruments. Special verification and checking procedures can be used to ensure a high standard of accuracy in the data read in.

Recently, it has been suggested that computers and also certain special devices might be usable to some extent as "artificial intelligences"; for example, within a few years, they might perhaps be able to formulate useful hypotheses by searching for significant patterns in the data presented to them; these patterns might include some that would not be found or imagined readily by human scientists examining the same evidence.

*There is great scope for the use of automatic recording techniques in the investigation of dowsing and radiesthesia.* For example, the activities of human sensitives may be filmed and their verbal reactions tape-recorded. Their physiological states, when they undergo dowsing reactions, can be recorded in several ways, for example by electro-encephalograph, electro-cardiograph, and measurement of skin resistance; Tromp (22) has pioneered some



of these methods here. In addition, the physical characteristics of the dowsing zones, such as electrical, magnetic, and electromagnetic fields, cosmic ray intensity and radio-activity, can all be measured accurately and examined for possible correlations with dowsing reactions; Tromp (22), Maby and Franklin (1, 13), and a few others have done useful pioneering work here. Good (5) and Wüst (29) respectively have suggested the possible influence of sound waves and mechanical vibrations of the ground on dowsing reactions. It is worth noting here that careful observations should be made of times as well as positions and physical and physiological and climatic variables; suggestions have been made that location factors (6, 7, 18) and time factors (8, 9, 22, 24) of various sorts may play important and even decisive parts in determining the characteristics of human behaviour and sensitivity, including dowsing and radiesthetic reactions.

#### IMPROVING THE STANDARDS OF EVIDENCE

Before describing my proposals for experimental research, I will discuss how the quality of the evidence for the phenomena of dowsing and radiesthesia may be improved. There are several reasons why a given piece of evidence may be unsatisfactory.

Firstly, *the experimental or observational situation may fail to exclude completely all the possible normal causes*, that is, causes explainable in terms of the present scientific framework. Such causes can be ruled out most easily in long-distance work such as map dowsing and teleradiesthesia. In field dowsing, normal causes are still partly present, because information from surface indications may influence the mind of the dowser and physical fields will have an effect whose extent is still unknown; it is hard to disentangle these effects from possible paranormal causes of dowsing reactions in many of the situations occurring in practice. In such cases, the performance of the dowser should be compared as far as possible with that of geologists, geophysicists and water engineers, using "orthodox" methods and working under closely comparable conditions. It is necessary also to guard against over-scepticism by checking that the combination of normal causes which would be able to produce a certain type of result could in fact have operated in the situation in which such a result was actually obtained.

Secondly, *the data may have been processed incorrectly or may not be available in adequate detail*. I have already pointed out that, if modern electronic data-processing equipment is used, there is only a minute chance that the records will be evaluated incorrectly once they have been obtained. The use of automatic recording instruments would minimise the risk of obtaining inaccurate data, but unfortunately there are rarely enough resources available to allow their adequate use. There is still great room for improvement in keeping the records of personal dowsing reactions. For



example, it would be desirable to have details available, to any scientific investigator, of what happened on each occasion when a well is drilled on the recommendation of a dowser, and to have comparable details for wells drilled on the instructions of "orthodox" water-finders. Again, in medical radiesthesia, not only should the radiesthetist give exact details of the nature and timings of his diagnoses and treatments, but also the medical practitioner supervising the patient at that time should be able to provide a complete and detailed medical history before, during and after the treatment; details about comparable medical cases, treated by "orthodox" medical methods only, should also be made available. This recording work is so considerable, if carried to the required standards, that it is probably too time-consuming to be performed unaided by the doctors and radiesthetists themselves; special secretarial help seems to be needed here.

Thirdly, *"good" results may occur by coincidence and luck.* In several types of country over which dowzers operate, random choice of positions at which to drill wells would still provide adequate water supplies! But other types of country can be found where the underground water, instead of being present in sheets, runs in narrow streams flowing a considerable distance apart; a dowser who could consistently find water under such ground could not rely on luck alone. In medical radiesthesia, the problem of coincidence is especially acute, because unexpected and "spontaneous" recoveries even from chronic illnesses are fairly common. Even here, the possibility of explaining away "positive" results by coincidence could be greatly reduced if, for example, it could be established that remarkable improvements occur in the health of patients undergoing "unorthodox" treatment, at moments closely coinciding with individual applications of this treatment, as long as the patient is kept completely unaware of the times of administration of the treatment.

Fourthly, *it is not always possible to verify the accuracy of the information given by the sensitive on the basis of his reactions.* For example, many dowsing reactions must remain unchecked, because of the expense of testing them by drilling a well or digging a hole. But, perhaps within a few years, it will become possible to deduce reasonably accurately from geophysical measurements the details of the configurations of underground water instead of, as now, obtaining only general indications about them. This accurate prospecting requires very formidable mathematical calculations, but even these should be performable by the very powerful electronic computers of the fairly near future! Adequate verification is also difficult in medical radiesthesia, partly because the radiesthetist's diagnoses are sometimes vague, and partly because the confirming medical diagnoses themselves are not always accurate. Further difficulties arise when a diagnosis



is made of a "tendency" to a disease, because such tendencies are usually uncheckable at the time and may fairly often never be realised; still, it may become possible to devise statistical methods which will partly verify groups of tendency diagnoses.

Fifthly, *the theoretical framework of the investigation may have been formulated wrongly*. There is a serious danger of this occurring among investigators without adequate scientific training, but this risk is slight if the theoretical procedures and methods are derived by highly qualified scientists who also have their ideas cross-checked and refereed.

Sixthly, *there is the possibility of fraud*. Not only is there reason to think that a few unscrupulous "radiesthetists" are guilty of this practice, but also many scientists would rather believe that some of their "reputable" colleagues would deceive them than admit that they had in fact discovered genuinely new phenomena, because they are frightened that such discoveries would overturn the existing framework of scientific theory; in my opinion, such fears are grossly exaggerated, but they are indeed very widespread. Technically, there is always an appreciable risk that a scientist might act dishonestly; the safest way to overcome the possible effects of such frauds is repeated demonstration of essentially the same new phenomenon by as many independent scientific teams as possible. Ultimately, if the claims for the new phenomena are in fact genuine, such extensive verification should almost always become possible, but this process may be slow. Unfortunately, this outcome is far from being reached in psychical research, let alone in the study of dowsing and radiesthesia.

To conclude my discussion of standards of evidence, I will point out that *first-class evidence, though desirable, is not always essential; for example, second-class evidence and even anecdotal evidence may sometimes suggest useful new hypotheses about the phenomena, though it is also liable to mislead*.

#### SOME GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS ON EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

*Experiments on dowsing and radiesthesia can be classified according to the extent to which their results are quantitative, the sensitivity of radiesthetic faculty that they require, the naturalness of their conditions, and their psychological atmosphere*. Although quantitative results are more desirable, qualitative results only are available in some situations; fortunately, modern statistical methods are being developed which allow the accurate assessment of qualitative as well as quantitative evidence. While many of the investigations which will throw light on the detailed nature of dowsing phenomena must inevitably only succeed if they can use top quality sensitives, there is still a considerable range of experiments where "average" sensitives and sometimes perhaps even ordinary people may have a reasonable chance of obtaining useful results. In the past, the more natural conditions have



usually not allowed adequate use of scientific methods, but, with the advent of more powerful modern techniques, this need no longer be so. I predict that most of the natural dowsing situations will fairly soon be testable by strictly scientific methods.

*The general psychological atmosphere of a test is often the most important factor determining its success or failure.* The experimenter should be friendly and sympathetic to the sensitive under test, and should not show hostile scepticism, even subconsciously; he should maintain a fair open-mindedness. The sensitive should not be assigned a task in which he is not interested; as far as possible, it should be closely related to the type of radiesthesia with which he is already familiar and experienced. On some occasions, especially where lower quality sensitives are being tested, the experiments could usefully be incorporated in a training course, thus also allowing simpler experiments to be conducted than those that are possible under field conditions. It is important that the sensitive should have a feeling that he is succeeding from the start; thus he should be started on easier tests and often at first under looser conditions, which are then gradually tightened up; Dr. Rhine has already used such techniques successfully in his researches on extrasensory perception. *On some occasions, it is possible to devise situations where the person does not know that he is being tested;* for example a person may have physiological recording instruments attached to him and then be asked to proceed to the place of the main test or be driven there in a car; on his journey to the test area, his reactions to the dowsing zones over which he passed could be recorded, but his mind would be unaware of them if his attention was suitably diverted during the journey. In this way, *his mind would be given no chance to inhibit the results, so that whatever genuine sensitivity he had would have a full chance of showing itself.* John Williamson (27) has made the valuable suggestion that *psychic, radiesthetic, dowsing and other faculties operate much more powerfully and accurately when the sensitive's general level of awareness and mental energy is raised; also that consciousness and mental energy can be improved if special courses of personal development are taken.* I hope that this suggestion will be given an adequate trial during the training of the next generation of dowsers and radiesthetists.

The simplest type of experiment to evaluate is that where a given set of conditions produces approximately the same results on each occasion. This sort of situation is characteristic of most of the experiments in the physical sciences and might sometimes occur in experiments with very high quality dowsers. *But, far more usually, the experimental results show a very wide variability; in fact, the experiments are unrepeatable. In such cases, the use of statistical methods is essential.* I will now give a few examples. Firstly, the *existence of some sort of paranormal effect* may be tested statistically:—can a dowser obtain significantly more successes



than would be expected by chance, while searching for a lost object, hidden pipe, underground stream, and so on? Secondly, statistical experiments may be devised *to sort out the effects of different experimental factors on the results*, for example how far is the growth of plants affected by the state of mind of a person who is trying to influence it or by radionic treatment? Thirdly, *how far do different operators obtain similar types of reaction while performing the same type of work*, for example, do different dowsters find the same reaction bands on the same piece of ground, and do radiesthetists obtain the same diagnoses from the same sample? The evaluations of this particular class of experiments must be treated with caution, as "inconsistent" results may be due merely to different sensitivities, and "consistent" reactions need not prove the existence of some objective phenomenon. Fourthly, *correspondences in timing patterns* may be tested statistically, for example, how closely do the times of change of condition of a patient undergoing radionic treatment correspond with the times of administration of that treatment?

#### SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE EXPERIMENTS

Besides the need to test sensitives for such important faculties as field dowsing, map dowsing, dowsing for hidden objects, radiesthetic diagnosis and treatment, there are also several more special classes of experiment, some of which are specially suited to strict scientific investigation, as well as several faculties, allied to dowsing and radiesthesia, which ought to be tested. I will now give some examples.

*Tests of extrasensory perception*, using the dowsing rod, pendulum, rubber pad, or other instrument as an indicator of the required information. Such experiments are useful in testing directly the psychic faculties of radiesthetists and may also throw light on the extent to which dowsing and radiesthesia themselves operate by means of psychic faculties. Most extrasensory perception tests are comparatively easy to evaluate scientifically, and rigorous test conditions can also be provided readily for them.

*Experiments to test the effects of mental activity and other possible paranormal influences on the growth of plants.* This sort of experiment seems to be especially well adapted to tests on ordinary people, with a reasonable chance of yielding positive results, and is also fairly easy to evaluate and to operate under strict test conditions. Several favourable reports have already been obtained (for example, 19) and it seems that the faculty of inducing plant growth is much more widespread among the population than radiesthetic ability is. For details of a recent fairly successful preliminary experiment of this sort, see Dr. Watson's report (27).

*Experiments to test the effects of dowsing zones and radionic treatments on living creatures.* Many dowsters claim that some of



their reactions occur in zones that are harmful to life. This could be tested by comparing the vitality of plants and animals placed in such zones with those placed outside them. The effects of radionic treatments on plants and animals should also be investigated scientifically. These experiments would not suffer from the difficulty, which must always be guarded against in experiments on humans, that "positive" results obtained might be due to suggestion.

*Muscle strength tests.* Maby (13) has claimed that the maximum strength exorable by a person varies according to whether or not he is situated inside a dowsing zone. Edwards (4) has made similar claims about artificial dowsing zones formed by means of special screens. These claims should be fairly easy to check under strict scientific conditions, but adequate precautions should be taken against the possible effects of suggestion on the people being tested.

*Psychic photography.* The de la Warr and Drown "cameras," which are both claimed to operate with the aid of psychic photography, have been used in conjunction with radiesthetic techniques. It would therefore be interesting to test the effects of mental activity on photographic plates and films, both with and without the aid of such "cameras." Preliminary reports (19, 28) that have come to my notice suggest that plates and films may be influenced directly by the mind itself. But judgment must be suspended on this question, as these claims have not yet been scientifically verified, in the presence of fully qualified photographic experts, and as the effects produced could all have been obtained by normal means.

*Odic Phenomena.* Reichenbach (20, 21) has claimed that a considerable proportion of the people whom he tested were able to perceive lights round magnets, crystals, and so on, when placed in dark rooms. He carried out many experiments on this and many associated phenomena. Few attempts have been made to confirm these claims, but some of them were partly successful. A modern scientific investigation of these claims is long overdue and might also throw important light on radiesthesia itself.

*Aura Phenomena.* Kilner (10) pioneered the investigation of the aura which some human sensitives claim to be able to see round the human body. This field of research has been strangely neglected since then, until the recent work of Muftic (16), but its results may be important to radiesthesia.

*Strange Dowsing Zones.* Several unusual types of dowsing zone have been observed, for example Maby's "fundamental rays" (11) and "flow fields" (1, 12), and Rawson's "radionic zones" round magnets (19). All these are worth further investigation but are probably accurately detectable only by high quality radiesthetic operators. It is too early yet to judge how



far they exist objectively, but, if they do, they may well have a fundamental importance for parapsysics.

*The use of special equipment.* Some radiesthetists use special detectors, such as the Pasquini "amplifying pendulum" (17) and "aurameter" (3), and special measuring devices such as the "aura biometer" (2). The aura biometer would be especially useful in scientific experiments, as it is used to measure accurately the positions of dowsing zones associated with human "samples." It would be interesting to test whether different radiesthetists obtain the same reaction positions from the same "samples," and also to verify the claims already made about the relations between the positions of these zones and the physical and mental characteristics of the person from whom the "sample" is taken. It should be fairly easy to operate such experiments under strict scientific conditions. Other special equipment worth testing is the "paper cylinder," known for many years and easy to construct, and its highly refined "descendant" Maby's "radio-electrometer" (1, 12). These instruments require quite elaborate associated equipment in order to be investigated with strict scientific standards, but they may be useful tools for penetrating deeply into radiesthetic phenomena.

Finally, I must mention *radionic instruments*. These are widely believed to act chiefly as a focus of the minds of their operators and to play little or no part in their own right. But I am by no means sure that they need always play an unimportant part, especially in view of several new suggestions for devices of this sort that have come to my notice (for example (26), (28)). I would prefer to suspend judgment on this question until much further research has been carried out.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Dowsing and radiesthesia are now facing an important crisis; either they will stagnate and perhaps gradually die away, or they will fairly soon make decisive new advances. They will make rapid progress only if certain conditions are satisfied. The scientists must be persuaded that it is worthwhile to carry out research on these phenomena and that they might provide the key to some of the most important secrets of the universe, such as the mystery of the relations between mind and matter. The sensitives must start to realise that they will serve mankind all the better by learning to improve their methods, and they can only do this properly by actively helping the scientific investigators of their faculties. Scientific research in these fields must itself become more unified, and provide a sensible balance between theoretical and experimental lines of attack, as well as making full use of the most up-to-date methods, techniques and instruments. In particular, it must devise experiments with conditions that are as natural as possible for the sensitives taking part in them.



I have sketched out some of the more important lines of thought about new research, but their details still remain to be filled in. This will require much patient and careful work. From time to time, I hope to report my further progress in this direction, and I hope that many others will also contribute their detailed proposals.

What are the prospects for the future? It is still very hard to predict; at present, the outcome is far from certain, though it is much too early yet to give up hope! Signs of progress are already beginning to appear. I have already found several promising young scientists who are willing to work hard and able to make brilliant discoveries in these new and hardly explored regions of study. I already know a few sensitives of considerable skill who are willing to place their rare gifts at the disposal of the scientific investigator. I hope that others of comparable quality will come forward soon to offer their services. If they are given a fair chance, these people could pave the way to important advances, but the difficulties facing them are still great. The resources of money, time and equipment available to them are still by no means enough to allow them to contribute to their full ability. Again, the new revolution of scientific methods is still incomplete, though I hope that it will have developed far enough to transform the research scene within about a year; in 1962, the ultra-modern techniques should already be pulling their weight and beginning to make dramatic progress possible. But, in 1961, we must still be patient, as the advances will be modest, although I hope that positive results will begin to be established scientifically in the simpler lines of research such as experiments on plant growth and on some of the psychic aspects of radiesthesia.

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#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank the scientists, dowsers, radiesthetists, and others, who have given me valuable information and expressions of opinion about the subjects discussed in my talk. They are too numerous to be mentioned individually, except that I have referred to a few of their more important contributions in the bibliography. They do not, of course, necessarily agree with the views that I have expressed here.



## HIGH PRESSURE DOWSING ZONES (HPDZs)

WATER UNDER ARTESIAN OR SEMI-ARTESIAN CONDITIONS

BY A. C. WILLIAMSON

The detection of these is a recent acquisition; a dowsing phenomenon of which I had hitherto been unaware.

When making some surveys in the Thika area of Kenya last year a borehole which was fully artesian—the water rising some 15ft. above ground level and yielding over 8,000 g.p.h. without pumping—was shown to me. I had previously been dowsing in the vicinity of this artesian well and felt no reaction on the rod whatsoever. The object of my surveys in the area was to detect flow-aquifers, the location of areas under strong hydrostatic pressure *had not entered my mind*. Once, however, I was made aware I was walking over a HPDZ the dowsing rod reacted violently downwards; in fact a perfectly good whalebone rod broke in my hands.

The next obvious thing to do was to determine the extent of the area under artesian conditions. This, according to my dowsing reactions, was approximately one square mile and extended to a point where my client was anxious to get an underground water supply. A site was chosen, Site No. 46\*, and this was just inside the area of the strong dowsing reaction; about half a mile away from the artesian well and at a higher elevation—estimated to be about 80ft. higher.

A most disappointing 240 g.p.h. was the result. The main aquifer was struck at 180ft. (my predicted depth) with the water rest level at 70ft. I surmised that the reason for the failure was that I had sited too near the edge of the dowsing zone; that “refraction of the radiations” caused the dowsing zone to extend beyond the area of artesian conditions.

Fortunately several opportunities arose to support this assumption shortly afterwards in Tanganyika. My services had been requested by a large developing sugar estate to locate, if possible, large quantities of ground water for irrigation purposes. Several HPDZs were detected in the deep alluvial formation and Sites Nos. 60 and 61 were selected for drilling. This time the sites chosen were approximately in the centre of the HPDZs. At both sites water under strong pressure was struck at, or just before, 100ft. and rose to almost ground level in the bores—semi-artesian conditions. Due to shifting sand, caving-in, etc., drilling was a very difficult operation and gravel packing was necessary. Pumping tests, however, were made, and it was found possible to use, temporarily, a fairly high-capacity pump powered electrically from the nearby sugar factory. Under these conditions Site No. 60 and No. 61 yielded 15,000 g.p.h. plus and 10,000 g.p.h. plus respectively. Since this was done there has been serious silting



up of the bores, in spite of gravel packing, and it has not yet been found possible to install permanent pumping equipment, but there would seem to be no doubt that yields from both these holes would be well inside the cusec range if the water were freely extractable.

Those who do not believe in dowsing, particularly if they are professional water-finding geologists or geophysicists, will say: "But, of course, you will get that amount of water anywhere around here in this formation." And it is generally very difficult to prove that they are not right. Luck, however, came to my aid in this particular case as a borehole had been drilled, previous to my surveys, on a site less than 300 yards away from my No. 60 and in similar formation. This yielded less than 800 g.p.h. and had been drilled to a greater depth than Site 60. The HPDZ associated with Site 60 did, in fact, extend to within a few yards of the low-yielding borehole, but it seems reasonable to postulate, in the light of experience of Site 46 in Kenya, that even if the hole had been drilled a few yards inside the HPDZ no more water would have been obtained.

Another site, No. 62, very recently drilled in Tanganyika (this time in Basement formation) over an HPDZ was fully artesian, the water shooting up 5ft. above ground level. A high-capacity pump is now being imported in the expectation that it will yield at least 9,000 g.p.h., the total water requirement of a sisal decortication plant.

Sites Nos. 60, 61 and 62, all sited in HPDZs, were drilled by Le Grand Adseo of England and their final drilling reports with quantity tests, once suitable pumps become available, will be sent in due course (like *all* my dowsing forecasts and drilling reports) to the B.S.D. in London for record purposes.

It is interesting to note that the firm of Le Grand Adseo, now associated with Le Grand Sutcliffe & Gell Limited and whose activities are now widespread throughout many parts of the world, was founded by a dowser, Mr. J. P. Le Grand, who is still a member of the British Society of Dowsters.

The dowsing reactions over a HPDZ are quite different from those associated with flow-aquifers. The HPDZ, probably because the water is static (relatively), has no reflected dowsing zones, no characteristic pattern showing reflected "side-bands," "flow-bands," etc. Nor is there any feeling of the rod becoming "alive" before the HPDZ is reached. The downward pull (in my case) of the rod, however, is much greater over a HPDZ than that over a flow-aquifer and it is likely, although this remains to be proved as far as I am concerned, that the stronger the pull on the rod the greater the hydrostatic pressure. Due to the absence of "reflection" phenomena there does not appear to be any means of forecasting the quantity of water under artesian or semi-artesian conditions.



Some people reading these notes will probably conclude that I have presented a good case showing that the dowsing reaction is a mental one. On the face of it this certainly *appears* to be the case. My own particular extra-sensory perceptive qualities certainly require my subconsciousness—or whatever it is—to be made aware beforehand of what I am looking for.

I am not qualified to enter into a discussion on the thorny question of "mental" versus "physical" dowsing. Except to say this : Is not now the trend of modern scientific thought towards the realisation that there is no *fundamental* difference between MIND and MATTER ?

My object in publishing these notes, and indeed all of my dowsing work, is to produce substantiated *facts* which will bear the scrutiny of unprejudiced scientific investigation.

\* The author numbers his locations in E. Africa serially ; the number of the latest report received is 104.—EDITOR.



## THE NEUROMUSCULAR REACTION

BY W. S. COCKAYNE, B.Sc.HONS.

It is generally accepted among dowsters that some sort of neuromuscular effect is frequently obtained as a tangible positive response to questions formulated mentally by a dowser who is investigating something. The movements observed in rods, pendulums, twigs, etc., is the tangible evidence which frequently causes disbelievers to doubt their eyes, then doubt their doubts, and finally to question by what mechanism such things can happen. To comment that a neuromuscular reaction occurs is unhelpful, since it is merely a verbal repetition of an obvious fact. The explanation must be strengthened theoretically by commenting on the analogy that medical methods of diagnosis, and other effects, have shown clearly that the human nervous system exhibits some characteristic electrical reactions.

It is therefore only natural and logical to seek to find where and how this "current" of nervous electricity is generated under normal (i.e., non-dowsing) circumstances. Recent medical investigations on Neurophysiology are increasingly providing information on the neuromuscular mechanisms associated with the response to conventional stimuli of the senses of humans—and of fishes—such as touch, etc. The observations of the recent investigators should therefore be of some interest to dowsters, even although the phenomenon of dowsing is triggered by some input-signal which is highly debatable—especially in the case of dowsing from maps.

An article entitled "Biological Transducers" which is presented in *Scientific American* of August, 1960 (p. 98) describes an investigation to determine the locality and manner in which an electrical nerve-current is generated in response to a sensory stimulus of bodily cells (animal or human) known as Picinian corpuscles, which are sensitive to pressure (touch). Direct reference to the original article is recommended to those interested in detailed observations, since the bare and partial outline presented herein to the B.S.D. must omit much that would interest the more biologically-minded reader.

The Picinian corpuscles are cells of some 1 mm. x 1/2 mm. in size which are distributed throughout, and embedded in, the surfaces of joints, tendons, muscles, skin and internal organs, so that one may "feel" a pressure, or a touch such as a pin prick, or one's hair blowing in a breeze. The cells consist of a number of concentric membranes, filled with cell fluids, so that when examined under a microscope the corpuscle looks rather like an oval onion, into the centre of which is embedded one end of a nerve fibre leading to an appropriate nerve tract. The nerve fibre may be likened to an electric cable in which the insulation—a waxy substance called Myelin—is interrupted one hundred times an



inch by small gaps, so that there are a succession of insulated and uninsulated segments along the length of the nerve, and one uninsulated end of the nerve is deeply embedded in the centre of the onion-like Picinian corpuscle. Measurements were made of the electrical current in the nerve while stimulating the cell by touch, while slicing the cell apart, and while pressing the nerve fibre, at an uninsulated gap, with a glass rod only one five thousandth of a millimetre in thickness.

Whenever the cell was touched a single electrical impulse appeared and was transmitted along the nerve fibre, and this still happened when 999 parts of the cell were cut away : provided the one remaining part of the cell was still in contact with the bare nerve end. It seems that the current was generated at the junction (interface) between cell and nerve. But by pressing the nerve fibre—at a gap—with the slender glass rod the nerve current was stopped from travelling beyond the point of compression. It was found that each insulated segment of nerve acted like a circuit which generated its own current, when it was "triggered" by the current from a preceding segment which was already responding to the current generated by the Picinian corpuscle under an applied pressure. It seems that the nerve transmits the electrical signal by acting as if it were a series of relay stations, and not as if it were a single continuous "wire."

It appears that a mechanical pressure upon the Picinian corpuscle causes an electrical current by selectively altering the permeability of the cell membrane towards some of the ionised salts ( $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{KCl}$ ) present in the cell fluids. The cell membrane acts, in effect, like a sieve of variable size, though which certain ions can pass, thus causing an electric current to appear since "ions" are chemical "atoms" which possess an electric charge.

It is as well to digress for a moment to comment on factors concerned in this mechanism, and to distinguish between the chemical-atom, and the electrochemical-atom which is called an "ion" to indicate that it is charged electrically. Atoms of metallic sodium and potassium will react violently, often explosively, with water, thus demonstrating their chemical properties, and electrical neutrality. But these chemical atoms are converted to positively charged ions ( $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ) by the loss of an electron. These ions are now sensitive to electromagnetic forces, as well as to the ill-understood "surface forces" which occur at the boundary between dissimilar materials. (Although the forces and effects which occur at interfaces are ill-understood from the theoretical viewpoint yet they are utilised daily in numerous common processes and applications in, for example, electric



batteries and cells, the purification of materials by chromatography (which is a selective separation such as happens in gas masks), and in wetting and emulsifying agents, etc., etc.).

Thus, in a simple electric cell having electrodes of copper and zinc immersed in dilute sulphuric acid, the ions flow through the battery acid to carry their electric charges to the electrodes and so create a voltage difference between the electrodes. If a barrier through which the ions could *not* pass were interposed between the electrodes, the flow of ions, and hence of electric current, would cease. But if a partition of chosen porosity is used it can act like a sieve which allows smaller ions to pass through, but restrains larger ones.

It seems that effects similar to these are set into operation when a Picinian corpuscle is touched, and that ions pass through the membrane to carry an electrical message to the nerve end, so that the message is transmitted from segment to segment along the nerve fibre, as if by a series of relay stations.

The process by which one type of sensory cell can generate a nerve signal is therefore now a little more understandable. It is worth noting that the nerve signal is generated with great rapidity, but that the signal travels along the nerve fibre at a relatively slow speed (about 40 metres per second).

Once started on its way there are several destinations to which the nerve signal might go, and a picture of the mechanism by which a muscle reacts to the signal has been outlined elsewhere. (See *Inside the Living Cell* by Prof. J. A. V. Butler ; Allen & Unwin, 1959). It appears that a somewhat similar process occurs in reverse when the muscle cell receives the electrical message from the nerve. The electrical current from the nerve causes an alteration in the concentration of ions in the cell fluids in which the muscle fibre is immersed, and that this change in concentration causes certain segments of the muscle fibre immediately to change their length, or to contract.

The broad picture of the neuromuscular reaction is therefore that of a sensory cell responding to some external (or internal ?) stimulus by an alteration in the composition of the cell fluids, thus generating a nerve "current" which travels relatively slowly through the nerve fibre until it reaches the appropriate muscle, where the composition of the fluids around the muscle-cell are changed so that the muscle fibre responds by altering its length.

Before continuing I must emphasise that the picture presented herein to B.S.D. readers is considerably over-simplified in many ways. Those investigators who study these problems in neurophysiology are faced with an extremely complex task which demands painstaking and delicate techniques in several different



highly specialised branches of science—they would be delighted if it were as simple as it sounds herein! I therefore feel it necessary to point out that any errors and distortions which might occur above are due to my own oversimplification, and that the following section is entitled "Discussion" to underline the fact that it represents personal speculations and interpretations, etc.

### DISCUSSION

The information outlined above concerns what might be broadly described as the reflex-arc of the neuromuscular system in relation to one of the simpler sensory cells, viz., that of touch and tactile sensation. The Picinian corpuscle has been called a "Biological Transducer" because it accepts a mechanical signal and converts it to an electrical one in much the same way that the "crystal pickup" of a record player converts a mechanical vibration into a corresponding electrical one, since the resistance of the crystal varies with mechanical pressure. The Picinian corpuscle therefore provides a "simple" study inasmuch as mechanical pressure is a stimulus which is relatively easy to produce, control and measure in a repeatable manner. The senses responsive to light, sound, taste and smell would be much more difficult to investigate, because of the complexity of the stimulus to which the sensory cell responds before behaving as a convertor of signals. With dowsing it is yet worse, since the type of stimulus, the type of sensory cell, and also its site are all equally unknown. It is therefore of some interest, but only of passing interest, to briefly—the emphasis is on brief!—consider the senses of taste, smell, sound and light.

Taste and smell are usually considered as closely related, in which taste is the predominant factor. Scientifically little is known of either, and it is only in recent years—using the method known as gas chromatography—that an attempt has been made instrumentally to analyse "essential oils" for differences in "smell." Most modern instruments produce yards of charts covered in wiggly lines! Distinctive combinations of wiggles were observed by the instruments; but it is as yet uncertain whether instruments and human beings have achieved a basis of mutual agreement. Sound, since it is in a pressure wave, is presumably closely related to touch in the type of sensory cell required to convert sound.

Light is a subject on which a considerable bulk of confusing data is available, hence it should interest dowers. With light the major snag appears to be that instruments are reasonably objective in discriminating between a wide range of wavelengths, but that the human being—or his brain—gets more than a little confused about the subjective interpretation of what the eye does see.



The retina is largely the "sensory cell" of the eye, and under the action of light the organic pigments of the eye are bleached. Various chemical reactions therefore occur, probably producing electrical effects to which the optic nerves and brain respond.

But the ability to recognise the several colours of light, and their different hues and blends, must involve a highly complex and sensitive mechanism to discriminate and identify the numerous light waves, and the nerve messages which result therefrom. Dowsing and colour vision are therefore broadly similar in the sense that both involve a complex range of input-signals, which are difficult to define, are probably both vibratory, and are recorded in terms of subjective opinion rather than instrumental analysis. The mechanism by which the control centre of the brain comes to its conclusions is therefore a matter for much speculation.

Since the existence of a degree of confusion among the higher centres of "organisation" is a fairly common feature in life, it is of some interest to note some examples of how the "objective" brain is deceived by the eye and/or light. Colour mosaics—excluding those used to detect colour blindness—can cause the eye to tell the brain a different story at different distances from the mosaic. And when one finds—at a range of some 2-3 feet that *none* of the stories was accurate it emphasises the fact that the eye—due to its structure of rods and cones—can give the brain false information. Other effects suggest that the brain recognises a signal which is the joint result of the frequency difference between different signals—an effect of which the theatrical world is aware, often unpredictably. I saw one very simple—but entirely unpremeditated—example in which amber and crimson beams were used to "spotlight" the "villain" so he moved in an appropriately crimson pool of light, but... he was attended by a most delightfully attractive pale lemon shadow wherever he moved in his crimson pool! The differences in intensity of light between two colours can also produce some surprising results.

It is yet more astonishing to learn that a picture in full colour has been obtained by projection, in stereoscopic arrangement, of two black-and-white negatives, when one of the negatives is both exposed and projected through a red filter, while the other is unfiltered. This effect, and certain related effects were recently reported, and promptly caused discussions in which historical books dealing with light were, after removing the dust, re-read!

The effects, jointly, of differences in colour (i.e., in wavelength) and in intensity produce some startling effects when dealing with light, and it leaves one to wonder if similarly complex effects occur in the phenomenon of dowsing. And also to wonder if such effects



"explain" the fading of the dowsing signal which some report, as well as the unpredictably weird and elusive behaviour which gold is stated to exhibit.

The part that thought plays in the neuromuscular reaction is also perplexing. Medicine tells us that the neuromuscular activity of the reflex-arc can be modified, and even inhibited, by commands from both the conscious, and subconscious, mind. Willpower and subconscious mental command are used to "condition" the "reflex-arc" towards some mentally desired purpose. We might therefore symbolise this neuromuscular and mind process by the letter "Y" if the legs of the "Y" are taken to represent the sensory cell (as a receiver), the muscle cell (as a motor or pointer), and the brain or brain cell (as a discriminator or command centre).

The problems of the mechanism of dowsing might then be represented as a search to find out (a) which leg of the "Y" is firstly involved, and thereafter (b) the sequence, and to what extent, all three legs are involved. The problem may be symbolised still further by "⊙" if "O" is taken to represent the person of the dowser, within whom the "Y" is enclosed, while outside the "O" is the general environment in which the dowser exists, and from which some external-signal may, or may not, come. This symbolism solves no problems, but it serves to crystallise the general problem in a figurative fashion.

It is worth noting that the insignia and badge of the B.S.D. do, effectively, represent this signal. (And also represent the "deep water" into which one falls in any effort to "understand" map-dowsing!).

The behaviour of the Picinian corpuscle is not a very helpful signpost to the major problems of dowsing, but it helps to make the reactions of the "weather sensitives" a little more understandable since the nervous signal originates from changes in the ionic concentrations in the cell fluids. It seems reasonable that changes in humidity, and in the climatic and electromagnetic environment may affect such cells, hence nerves, etc.

The comparison between science and dowsing does little, at present, to "explain" the mechanism of dowsing and its phenomena, but it has a reverse value insofar as dowsing appears to offer a yardstick against which to measure the deficiencies in present knowledge of physical and biological processes. This "yardstick" character of dowsing is implicit in its own history, for examination shows that attempts to "explain" dowsing have resulted in each new scientific discovery being discussed, in turn, in an effort to obtain a mechanistically-plausible "explanation" of dowsing in general. Attempted explanations have been based on things like effluvia, magnetism, light, ultra-violet, infra-red, X-rays, radioactivity, wave and field theories. The sequence shows the history of scientific development, but has "explained" very few



aspects of the phenomena involved in the variety of dowsing techniques. Anti-matter and cosmological uncertainties are presumably the next hopes on the list of "possible scientific" explanations.

#### ADDENDUM

This is an addendum; since an interesting article entitled "Electric Fishes" has appeared in October, 1960, issue of *Scientific American*. The subject matter is pertinent to the present B.S.D. article, since it concerns the neurophysiology of fishes, on which much interesting and detailed information is given. To name these present lines an "addendum" is therefore factual in sequence of writing; but is also convenient to distinguish between the neurophysiology of animals (already discussed), and that of fishes for which a versatile range of interesting information is presented in the article on electric fishes.

I am reluctant, however, to attempt even to outline the complex electrical behaviour of the wide variety of fishes discussed. One penalty of science is that there is no easy road to by-pass complexity whilst remaining accurate, and even the "standard technique" of analogy can, wittingly or unwittingly, act like a mirror which distorts the picture.

The original article deals with fishes ranging from the timorous little fellow who—even under extreme provocation—is averse to shocking one; right up to the more frightening aggressors who can provide a robust shock of 50 amperes at 50-60 volts from a synchronised "battery" of hundreds of thousands of cells arranged in multi-bank array—with equally complex "wiring." I therefore restrict myself to personal interpretations and comments which appeal to myself in reference to the present B.S.D. article.

It seems that fishes can possess a wide variety of "battery arrays," of "wiring circuits," and can give shocks of types which might be classed "full-wave," or else "half-wave" of either polarity. One fish even gives triple shocks—in a matter of a mere one-third of a thousandth of a second—during which there are reversals of the polarity not only of the shock, but also of the fish itself.

A quick personal comparison of information on the physiological cells seems to show that for both land animals and fishes the interiors of the "resting" cell are of -ve polarity, and that in both cases the permeability of the cell membrane alters so that ions may pass. But the present trends suggest that the "mobile" ions are potassium for fish and sodium for the land animal. In both cases the voltage that results is dependent on the relative concentration of the two ions, and in both cases the "resting" cell is -ve inside and +ve outside, and the nerve-current travels at 40 metres per second along the nerve fibre.



There are several most interesting points to make dowsers ponder! It seems that certain fishes are sufficiently sensitive to detect in their surroundings voltage differences as low as one-thirtieth part of a millionth of a volt, AND . . . that some of these fishes can be *trained* "to detect a small stationary magnet, and to differentiate between waters of different conductivity"(!). It is stated that these fishes can detect (hence avoid, or attack) metallic and non-metallic objects which affect the electrical environment of the fish.

The information shows, in general, that a sensory cell sends a message to the fish's brain when an intruder is present, and that the brain then returns a "Fire" order to the multitudinous battery of electric shocking-cells, which are arranged in rows and might therefore be expected to discharge immediately the "order" was received. But, in fact, the cells discharge simultaneously because "In all of the species the firing of the organs appears to be regulated by a 'command centre' in the brain." Thus some "pacemaker" cell corrects for the tiny differences in the arrival-times of the "Fire" orders, so that the complex system discharges a synchronised salvo to produce one big shock.

It seems to myself that points commented on in this "addendum" help to clarify some of the points raised in the earlier section of this B.S.D. article concerning the sequence of activity in the neuromuscular "Y."

Finally, I hope I shall not offend anyone by questioning if dowsers react rather like fishes out of water!

## RESONANCE OF THE HUMAN BODY

The following note headed "Resonance of the Human Body" is reproduced from *Discovery* of November, 1960, with the permission of the Editor. It shows how the neuromuscular system of a dowser can be affected by material vibrations, and is therefore of interest to dowsers, as their reactions might be enhanced or diminished thereby.

Vibrations and resonance have been studied in various structures for centuries, but it is only relatively recently that man himself has been looked upon as a spring-mass system. The interest in human body resonances has been stimulated by the development of high-speed aircraft in which a pilot has to work under bumpy conditions. The R.A.F. Institute of Aviation Medicine have carried out a number of controlled experiments to find out how body size, muscular tension and intensity of vibration influence resonant action of the body. Measurements with accelerometers revealed spinal resonances, the most marked effect occurring at about 5 cycles/sec., with smaller effects at 2.4 and 13 cycles/sec.



The 5-cycle resonance proved most uncomfortable and simple tests on the recording of printing errors and the co-ordination of hand and eye manoeuvres showed significant degradation in performance near resonance, although it was even worse below resonance, at about 4 cycles/sec.

Tests on ten men showed that variations in body size and intensity of vibration had little effect on the resonant frequencies but that muscular tensing diminished the involuntary shoulder-shrugging movements and raised the frequency slightly because it increased body damping.

It is interesting to note that the resonance induced in motor cars due to road shocks is about the same frequency as the human body. Motor manufacturers might well study these results as they may explain why certain cars give a much better ride than others, although there is no obvious difference in springing between them.



# PARANORMAL COGNITION AND SYMBOLISM

BY PROFESSOR H. H. PRICE

The first part of this lecture, which was delivered at the College of Psychic Science on May 31st, and also at the 1960 Symposium of the Colston Society of Bristol, is reproduced from *Light* with the consent of the Editor, and also of Professor Price and of the Colston Research Society.

Leibniz's theory of Monadology, with its implication of Omniscience, seems to foreshadow the modern and now well-proven ability of some dowers to discover objects at great distances, the existence of which was quite unknown.

I speak to you this afternoon as a philosopher who happens to be interested in psychical research as well. I hope my remarks may have some relevance to the main subject of this symposium. It is worth while to remember that in classical Latin a poet was often called a *vates*: and a *vates*, a prophet or soothsayer, was a person with paranormal cognitive powers. The strange and exciting topic of poetical inspiration is one which surely does lie close to the centre of your interests. The stratum or level of the human mind from which poetical inspiration comes is also the one in which paranormal cognition has its origin. At least, this is what the Ancients were suggesting when they used the same word *vates* both for poets and for prophets, and began their poems (very properly, in my opinion) by invoking the aid of the Muse. Again, someone has said that metaphor is the natural language of the unconscious; and as I shall try to show, the notion of indirect and non-literal presentation is no less important to psychical researchers than it is to students of imaginative literature.

I begin (surprisingly perhaps) by reminding you of some of the main themes of Leibniz's *Monadology*.

Of all the great classical philosophers, I sometimes think that Leibniz is the one whose ideas are most suggestive for the psychical researcher. In his metaphysics, paranormal cognition is no longer paranormal. It is something normal, something which happens as a matter of course. Leibniz holds that the entire created universe consists of mind-like entities which he calls *Monads*. All these *Monads* are in a state of perpetual telepathy with each other, which he calls "pre-established harmony." All of them have precognition of their own respective futures. Clairvoyance can be provided for too. But on Leibniz's view it would just be a special case of telepathy, because material objects, he thinks, have only a phenomenal existence. What appears to us as a material object is really (in his view) a collection of minds or mind-like entities.

Moreover, Leibniz was the first modern philosopher to suggest that there are mental processes below or beyond the threshold of consciousness, and the notion of subconscious or subliminal mental activity plays a fundamental part in his metaphysics. His view is, I think, that every *Monad* perceives the whole of the



universe. In the less developed Monads, those which are the constituents of what appear to our senses as material objects, this perception remains wholly subconscious. Each of them does, in fact, perceive the whole of the rest of the universe, but it is not aware of doing so. More developed Monads, such as human minds, are aware of some of the perceptions which they have, but they are not aware of them all. Each of us, for example, perceives the whole universe, including the whole of his own past and future. But though we have this unlimited knowledge, we are aware of only a small part of it. Only a little of it gets across the threshold of consciousness.

What we get from Leibniz, in short, is the strange and exciting idea of latent omniscience : omniscience, because he thinks that every mind knows all the empirical facts that there are (including facts about its own future), but latent omniscience because he thinks that the far greater part of this knowledge is sub-conscious or unconscious. Moreover, on his view, this knowledge is not acquired bit by bit. Indeed, it is not acquired at all. He holds that it is the inherent possession of every mind, something which we have possessed, in the "depths" of us, at all times, ever since we were created. If I am not mistaken, much the same idea of latent omniscience is to be found in some of the ancient Hindu philosophers, for example, in some of the exponents of Gnana Yoga, the "Yoga of Knowledge."

"Omniscience" is a very strong word, to be sure ! I am not suggesting that any sober-minded psychical researcher should accept the hypothesis of latent omniscience just as it stands. Far from it. But should we perhaps consider the possibility that each human mind possesses a subconscious or unconscious range of knowledge to which at present no limits can be assigned ? Not quite that either. The word "knowledge" is too clear cut and says too much. We need some deliberately vaguer term like "being in touch with." The hypothesis which Leibniz's extravagant doctrine suggests should rather be put like this : it is the idea that each of us, below the level of consciousness, is all the time in touch with a very much wider range of facts and happenings than he is consciously aware of.

If we consider this suggestion, just to see what its consequences are, we find that it alters the questions we commonly ask about paranormal cognition. We no longer ask "why does paranormal cognition occasionally occur ?" Instead, we ask "Why does it appear to occur so seldom ?" According to Leibniz it is actually occurring all the time in all of us ; and he wishes us to take this as a basic fact about the human mind (indeed about any sort of mind) ; this was the way it pleased God to create us. The puzzling thing, then, is why do paranormal cognitions emerge into consciousness so seldom ?



Now whatever we think about the Leibnizian theory of latent omniscience, I believe that this is the right question to ask about paranormal cognition. For it is fairly clear, on any view, that there are two distinct stages in telepathy and clairvoyance. (Precognition and retrocognition, I think, are best thought of not as independent cognitive powers but as dimensions, so to speak, of telepathy and clairvoyance). The two stages I speak of are these: First, there is something which we are "in touch with" at the unconscious level. (According to Leibniz himself we do not come to be in touch with it; we are always so, inherently). And then, secondly, this unconscious "contact" which we have, has to "get itself across" in one way or another into consciousness. I say "in one way or another" because the empirical evidence suggests that there are many *different* ways in which it may "get itself across" (and also many *different degrees of success* it may have in doing so). A paranormal "impression" may emerge into consciousness in the form of waking mental imagery: in the form of a dream; in the form of a "hunch" or "intuition," i.e., an apparently unreasoned belief which we suddenly find ourselves having; in the form of an equally unreasoned impulse to do something, e.g., to go home at once, absurd as it seems, or to write at once to so-and-so (in a religious person it might be a sudden impulse to pray for someone whom he has not thought of for months); or best of all, the paranormal impression may emerge in the form of a visual or auditory hallucination, a telepathic apparition for instance. Sometimes, again, the paranormal impression emerges in the form of non-voluntary bodily behaviour, as in automatic writing, or in slips of the tongue, or in the automatic speech which occurs in some forms of the mediumistic trance, or even in the form of automatic drawing or painting.

This, by the way, is a reason why I have never felt altogether happy about the term "extrasensory perception" (though the letters E.S.P., if used as a mere label, are harmless enough). Paranormal cognition is indeed *extra-sensory*, and this is a vastly important fact about it. But it is very unlike what is usually called perception. A better explanatory model or analogy would be the Freudian or the Jungian theory of dreams. Moreover, if I am right, the familiar card-guessing technique used by Dr. Rhine and others in E.S.P. experiments cannot tell us much about the way paranormal cognition works, because (at least in its usual form) it allows for only two possibilities: hit or miss. But if we consider spontaneous cases of paranormal cognition, it is fairly clear that the emergence-process, the process of getting across into consciousness, may have many different degrees of success, as well as many different ways of occurring.



## THE MIASMIC THEORY OF DISEASE

*A lecture delivered to the Society on Wednesday, January 18th, 1961*

BY DR. D. BARLAS

Introducing the lecturer, the Chairman said :

I have much pleasure in introducing Dr. Barlas. Some of you have heard him already, as he has been good enough to lecture to us on two previous occasions, the last one being nearly two years ago.

At one time he studied orthodox medicine, but gave it up in favour of Homoeopathy, which he found more effective, especially when combined with Radiesthesia.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for the privilege of addressing you this afternoon. It will be my endeavour, as far as possible, not to put forward theories that cannot be substantiated or demonstrated. I will present things that I have proved over and over again. After the talk I will give a demonstration—a visual one, of the facts I will present. The pendulum is a blessing, it speaks for itself. I have had the privilege of addressing this society on more than one occasion, the last time on chronic diseases in the light of Radiesthesia. At least some people thought the talk was of some value. So I thought it might prove of interest to say something more about its practical applications and those new facts that have emerged from experiment and experience.

The more experience one gets in the treatment of chronic disease in its myriad manifestations, the more convinced one becomes of the fact of its being firmly based on the miasms we inherit, perpetuate, nourish, develop and acquire.

I consider this subject of miasms also of the highest importance for the welfare of humanity. Health and fitness are of the first importance and anything that contributes in that direction is of vital importance. If the theory of the miasmatic origin of disease were to be accepted and its principles applied to the cure and prevention of disease a new era for mankind might well begin. Practically all the deep and incurable diseases can be prevented and cured. Hygiene and nutrition will do the rest.

So far, we have seldom, if ever, been able to get rid of any of them once they have been acquired. No method of healing has ever succeeded in eradicating them—not even Homoeopathy. Here I am referring to Homoeopathy as practised by the orthodox. However, I must confess that I yield to no one in my admiration of Hahnemann, the founder of Homoeopathy. He had marvellous intuition ; if it had not been for him we would have never thought



of the miasms. He did not state the whole truth because he could not. Radiesthesia was not known in his day and miasms can be investigated by no other method. With all his marvellous intuition and knowledge I doubt very much if he ever cured a single miasm. For one thing his medical armamentarium was so limited. No matter how gifted we are intuitively or radiesthetically, if we have not the access to the remedies needed to cure a condition, we can do nothing.

The cure of miasmatic disease, which is another way of saying the cure of chronic disease, has been a hopeless job so far, because the God-given faculty of dowsing sensitiveness has not been invoked in this field. It is gratifying that we are now able to understand and modify this disease process, with the aid of Radiesthesia—at least to some extent. A great deal needs to be done, but given the necessary facilities, we can gain knowledge very rapidly. Problems that the great laboratories cannot solve in years, can, with proper techniques, be solved in hours or days—with the help of Radiesthesia.

As far as cure of disease is concerned, even now all we need is an unlimited supply of remedies, chemical, biological, animal, vegetable, etc., in fact we need remedies from all sources. And we want them both crude and potentised. Once we have access to these therapeutic agents, we would only need sensitive Radiesthetists to utilise them. And when I say a sensitive Radiesthetist, I mean just that. And he is a rare animal. Contrary to popular belief, I do not think everybody can develop Radiesthetic sensitiveness. You have to be a born Radiesthetist to do this work. You have to be superlatively sensitive. There are degrees of sensitiveness, and for this work you need one whose reactions take place instantaneously and at a distance. All the tests must be done blindly and without any preconceived notions, of what may or may not be indicated.

Progress in the cure of disease has been greatly handicapped by the ultra-materialistic approach of the medical profession. The materialistic approach has always failed and will always fail in its attempt to understand life and disease. They are both immaterial and therefore can only be investigated by immaterial means. This is, in fact, the true sphere of Radiesthesia.

Immaterial causes cannot be investigated or discovered by material means, just as the nature of life cannot be found in death. Death is the departure of life. The dead-end product cannot reveal the nature of a living cause. How can that which is left behind reveal the cause of that which has already departed? It is simply not there. Yet all our great laboratories deal mostly with the dead-end products.



It would be appropriate here to say a few words about miasms for those who do not know anything about them and also to refresh the memory of those who do.

### *Heredity*

The most important single factor in the causation and prevention of ill-health is our heredity—the tendencies and predispositions received from our parents and forbears. Many eminent men deny the importance of heredity, but a little consideration will show how wrong they are. If you plant potatoes, you will only get potatoes—good or bad, depending on the seed—but never tomatoes. The same is true of human beings. Children inherit every potentiality from their parents. They will have the good and bad qualities of both parents. A child may take more after one parent than the other, but can never go beyond the physical limitations of his heredity. The infinitesimal seed at conception contains all these potentialities. Completely uneducated parents may have children who become highly cultured as a result of training and education. But parents with weak hearts can never produce children with herculean hearts.

Human beings, through countless generations, have acquired certain infections which have been handed down from generation to generation in highly potentised form. These hereditary factors dominate the future physical and mental prospects of a child. One can tell even from the specimen of a child whether it has a tendency to cancer, tuberculosis, etc.

For the *future* well-being of the person and his offspring, it is essential that these predispositions or miasmatic tendencies be eliminated. They are the root cause of *all* disease. *Only* by the removal of these miasms can the cause of cancer, tuberculosis, coronary disease (and what not) be removed. Anti-miasmatic treatment is in fact the ideal form of prophylaxis against almost all disease.

The above is a quotation from a small pamphlet of my own. It is perhaps too brief.

Radiesthesia is a real godsend. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. A disease that may eventuate in a tumour thirty or forty years later will show the tendency clearly even now. A new-born child of cancerous parents for example will show the tendency unmistakably.

Incidentally one may say that childhood is the best time for anti-miasmatic treatment, though it is never too late at any age. It will always do good. In an ideal society one would institute pre-natal and post-natal anti-miasmatic treatment. A super-race would no doubt result.



I have at least one child even now under observation, where the treatment was started while the child was in his mother's womb, and the treatment has been continued since. He is now in his fourth year and free of all miasms. It would be interesting to give a few facts about this child's family history. The parents had several children before this one. They all died within the first three months of life. The father of the child is a highly qualified medical man and a specialist in eye, ear, nose and throat. They made all the standard tests but could not locate the cause. Radiesthesia, however, truly and clearly showed the causative miasms and confirmed the diagnosis by the cure. This is the only child of his parents who has lived more than a few months.

Miasms are often at the bottom of nondescript illnesses of people who are never well or ill. The doctors claim they are well, but the patients know very well they are not. I was such a one myself, so I know. It is in such cases that Radiesthesia will at once solve the riddle.

That reminds me of a case through which I discovered a new test for cancer and precancer. This is the case of a young lady of twenty-six years in indifferent health, but having no diagnosable disease, in the ordinary sense. On testing she proved to be highly miasmatic, but the one interesting thing about her was that she was hyper-alkaline. At the time I did not know the significance of this. Now I know that every case of cancer or precancer is hyper-alkaline. I have since proved this in numerous cases. I will demonstrate this fact after the talk from actual specimens.

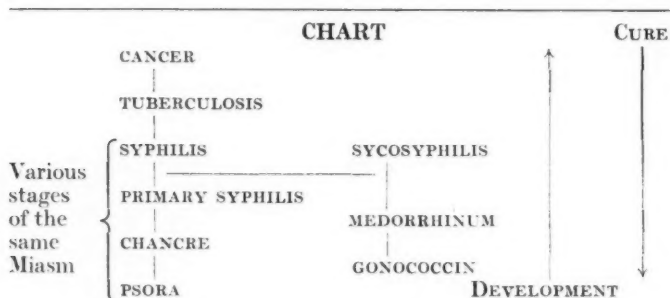
Since discovering the importance of this reaction I enquired from this young lady and found there was actually T.B. and cancer present in the family. According to my investigations cancer is actually an advanced form of T.B., and T.B. is based on syphilis or syco-syphilis and that is founded on psora, which Hahnemann called the mother of all disease. Nobody knows what psora is. The only thing that we have to go upon is the nosode psorinum which Hahnemann himself prepared. Radiesthetically this has the nature of syphilis in it. So the question arises, is the original disease of man a form of syphilis? I cannot give a definite answer to this question yet. But it may well be, and seems to be so.

Another important thing that has evolved out of our Radiesthetic anti-miasmatic treatment is the relationship of acute diseases to the miasms.

For one thing, the severity of acute diseases is in proportion to the development of miasms in the host. The more miasmatic a person is the poorer is his reaction to acute infections. And



what is more, he will seldom throw them off completely. Those acute diseases will remain latent in the body for years and years and will be eliminated only when the miasms themselves have been eradicated. Not only that, certain infections go with certain miasms, so I have illustrated here the relationship of various strains of flu to various miasms.



This is how miasms develop and the course any curative treatment must follow.

The severity of all acute infections is proportional to the development of miasms in the individual. Here the relationships of various kinds of influenza to miasms is charted:

CANCER	Turenne Influenzin
	Influenzin Meningitis
TUBERCULOSIS	Influenzin Serum
SYPHILIS MAJOR	Asia Flu, Vir. A
SYPHILIS PRIMARY	Influenzin
SYPHILIS CHANCER	Spanish Flu, Nos. 1 and 2
	Spanish No. 3
	Tubere. Bovine

NOTE.—Some neuralgias and rheumatisms are simply a chronic latent influenza.

Another interesting thing is that acute diseases in the course of chronic disease, while under anti-miasmatic treatment, are always a good omen and show beneficial reaction of the body. These acute diseases are usually some of those latent acute infections that the body was not strong enough to throw off. An acute infection in the course of anti-miasmatic treatment often heralds the elimination of a miasm. In fact this is a common occurrence in the course of such treatment.



To come back to the question of the relationship of the severity of an acute infection to the development of miasms in the host ; let us take influenza as an example. Influenza in the cancerous constitution is the worst. The tuberculous have it very badly, but less so than the cancerous. A syphilitic will have it less strongly than the tubercular. A syco-syphilitic still less violently. A primary syphilitic even more mildly. A psoric may have it as a mild cold or may not react to it at all.

Of course one has had more experience with flu, but I feel sure that this would be true also of other acute conditions.

The accompanying chart clearly shows you how the miasms develop and how they go with proper treatment, and their relationship to the various strains of flu.

Acute diseases are always beneficial provided they are handled properly. They are the rebellions of vitality against the tyranny of the miasms. During an acute disease the body is on the offensive, whereas in chronic conditions it is always on the defensive. It is a losing battle.

This is especially true of patients under anti-miasmatic treatment. Recently a child in a precancerous condition dropped his cancerous miasm, together with his scarlatina, while under anti-miasmatic care.

Another point that has become elucidated in some ways is that of vitality.

Of course everything depends on vitality. Where vitality is lacking nothing much can be done. One interesting point is that when a person lacks vitality, some of the miasms, although present, will not show, at the first few tests. As the vitality improves under proper treatment the miasms begin to show themselves. There was a very interesting case of a doctor, a part of whose stomach was removed because of cancerous ulceration. He showed no miasms at all and died soon after sending the specimen. All the miasms were there of course, but in a latent state. He did not possess the vitality to show them.

Another important point is that individuals are a law unto themselves. Some young people will make slow progress, while some elderly people will make rapid progress. One has seen a tumour disappear in an elderly person within nine months, while some young men with nervous troubles have lingered on without much improvement. But on the whole the younger you are the quicker your response, other things being equal, although one can help at all ages.

This is how miasms develop and the course any curative treatment must follow.

Radiesthetically applied Homoeopathy will give splendid results in all curable cases, but I would like to emphasise the point, that impossible things should not be expected of Radiesthesia—and the treatments applied through its agency, although



this is an ideal combination. The individual should never be forgotten as an entity. Two persons of the same disease may differ fundamentally as to prognosis. For instance, I remember two cases of nervous disease ; a Mr. A., in his fifties, whose response was indifferent, in spite of the most painstaking and careful prescribing, whereas another gentleman, Mr. B., in his sixties, responded promptly and did not look back, although both were highly miasmatic.

But here I would like to say that failures of radiesthetically applied Homoeopathy are the worst in the world, but they are failures of the individual's response and not of the method. However, that does not mean that they cannot be palliated in some other ways. Here the difference between palliation and cure must always be borne in mind. To cure constipation by homoeopathic remedies is one thing and to relieve it with milk of magnesia or cascara sagrada is another matter altogether. One is cure and the other palliation, but people often confuse the two. Palliation, no matter how good, always has some bad side effects. It won't give a positive test with my therapeutic yardstick reaction.

Another point well worth remembering is that some organ in an otherwise fairly normal organism can be beyond repair, no matter what you do. An organ that was reasonably normal at birth, but is now under the influence of some infection, may be reasonably expected to get well, considering everything, e.g., age, vitality, duration of illness, etc. On the other hand, if one inherits a diseased organ or the organ has become destroyed by disease, not much can be expected. Radiesthesia cannot create new organs for you. A good example of the former is male sterility. Persons concerned all looked and felt quite healthy in every respect, yet were hopelessly sterile. Another example is advanced diabetes. However, I may mention, in passing, that disease labels, though helpful in classifying people, can often be neglected, when studying the patient as an individual. For instance, even diabetes, in not too miasmatic persons, who have not been subjected to heroic treatments, can often be cured ; whereas a similar condition in a highly miasmatic person may be very difficult if not incurable, as some of these cases may really be due to tuberculosis or even cancer of the pancreas. Then there are cases of diabetes which are only remotely connected with the pancreas. The cause may be situated in the pituitary. Radiesthesia will always show the causative factor promptly and clearly.

So you see what a godsend Radiesthesia is — if only as a means of diagnosis and prognosis. But here everything depends on the witnesses you have. If you have bad ones, not much can be expected. Of course, your dowsing sensitiveness must be genuine and not imaginary ; that goes without saying.

And now I want to say a word about sensitiveness. That is a controversial question. Everyone is guided according to the



light that is given him. We have seen eminent people express opinions about this phenomenon, though they have no personal experience of it at all. Just because they are eminent in some other field of endeavour, they are not qualified to pronounce judgment on Radiesthesia. I think only those people who get tangible results with it, can or should have a say. Simply because a person swings a pendulum, he does not become a radiesthetist. The results should show whether he is one or not.

Recently a good opportunity was missed for putting Radiesthesia on the map. An eminent inventor was invited to diagnose from specimens and he refused to do so and in the end claimed that it was all mental. My only instrument is a simple pendulum and a glass plate. I would be quite willing to submit to such a test if all the parties concerned were *honest* about it.

In my humble opinion, those who do what they call Mental Radiesthesia, would, I think, get even better results by gazing into a crystal, because that is more suitable for clairvoyant people. My experience and results seem to show that Radiesthesia is entirely a physical reaction; it has something to do with the autonomic nervous system and is absolutely automatic. For example, I do all my tests blind, without any preconceived notions and with a blank mind. Most patients never tell me anything and I seldom see them. The remedies I select from are all in a jumble. I don't know where any particular remedy is; they are not even in alphabetical order, and I stand several feet away before selecting them and get all my reactions at a distance, and in the majority of cases remedies come through of which I could not possibly have any notion in my head because they are so rare. For instance, in one case a potency of film was needed, and in another of jute; I had to prepare both.

I would not like to express an opinion on other people's dowsing ability, but some eminent people think it is all gas. Well, they may be right about their own brand, but I am sure mine is not. I may be labouring under a delusion, but that is for others to find out. I am convinced that my radiesthetic reactions are as physical as my senses of smell and vision.

The only sure way to find out the genuineness of one's reactions is to make tests or get oneself tested under suitable conditions with genuine blood specimens and varified genuine witnesses in clean and sterile surroundings. Only repeated tests of this kind can solve this problem. Nobody has ever put forward such actual tests. *They have all been content to talk—but this is not a talking matter at all.* The tests should speak for themselves. A good scent speaks for itself and needs no recommendation from the chemist. If tests are conducted, I repeat this, *under proper conditions*, we will surely get an answer to the question: Is Radiesthesia all mental?



Here I would like to emphasise the importance of good witnesses once more, for everything depends on them.

### *Witnesses*

Perfect and genuine witnesses are of the greatest importance. More research is needed on the witnesses that represent miasms and infections, and they should be standardised.

Here it would not be out of place to mention that as a result of extended research that I have carried out on the miasmatic evolution of disease I have come to a rather unfamiliar conclusion. Of course this research has been extended only as far as a single individual's research can be. It would need confirmation, but unfortunately there are very few people who dabble in it or are capable of dabbling in it.

My conclusion is that miasm psora about which Hahnemann spoke so much and Homoeopaths of all shades of opinion have been debating for over 150 years, apparently does not exist. At least that is the conclusion to which one would come if the nosode psorinum which Hahnemann himself prepared and which he claimed to represent psora. This, however, I have now found is a product of syphilis. So that we are led to the conclusion that the original disease of man was syphilis or a combination of syphilis and sychosis.

### *Polarity*

This is an important aspect of health and disease. A perfectly healthy person is positive. The exact opposite is a person with cancer who is completely negative. There are various stages between these two extremes. I will demonstrate this by a test with a cancer specimen.

### *The Yardstick*

I have discovered a reaction which I call my therapeutic yardstick. Any remedy or any method that has a basically beneficial effect on a person will give this reaction. It may be a food, a drug or a piece of wire. A broadcast treatment, if it really does something to one, should produce this reaction too. So far no one has succeeded in doing this.

I will demonstrate this reaction with all the three things mentioned above. But anything beneficial should produce it.

### *Purity or Perfection Test*

I have found that any perfect food, a perfect combination of chemicals—even crude, a perfect potency of a homoeopathic remedy, a perfect witness, will all give this reaction. Any homoeopathic remedy that is contaminated, any refined food or drugged article of diet, a bad witness will not give this reaction.



To produce this reaction the thing must be perfect as a whole, for example a perfect medicine with a bad cork, will stop this reaction at once. I will demonstrate all these.

Finally, I would like to offer a suggestion for the future of Radiesthesia and Homoeopathy. These two sciences will never come into their own until we have thinking men and women who take an interest in them. As long as we think that Hahnemann has said the last word, Homoeopathy will stay where it is, and as long as radiesthetists are content to copy what someone has done or said and take it as gospel truth, there will be no progress. A lot of things that are accepted to-day by radiesthetists have no basis in truth. We should benefit by other people's experience and stick to that which has been proved over and over again as a fact and not just accept what has been handed down as a fetish.

We must learn to think for ourselves and have the courage of our convictions.

#### DEMONSTRATIONS

At the end of the talk the following facts were illustrated from actual specimens.

1. The possibility of curing cancer by the eradication of miasms. Specimens from an actual case taken at various stages until the disappearance of the tumours were shown.
2. The relationship of various strains of influenza to miasms was illustrated.
3. The relationship of various types of flu to each other was shown.
4. That psora as represented by the nosode psorinum, was shown to be a product of syphilis.
5. Lack of reaction on the patient's part may not show the miasms actually present at the first few tests. Illustrated from specimen of an actual case.
6. Hereditary cancer (without actual symptoms of the disease) in a child of 8 was shown from a specimen.
7. Therapeutic yardstick reaction was shown.
8. The perfection (for any thing) test was shown.



## OBSERVATIONS ON DOWSING

An unusually interesting lecture was given to the Society on November 22nd, 1960, by Mr. Horace Leaf, the well known clairvoyant and psychometrist. He included far more than the title suggests, as he gave us examples of the activities for which he is famous in many lands, including Australia, New Zealand, and North America.

Amongst his experiences of water divining, he told us how a dowser found water on his sister's estate after engineers had failed to locate a site for a suitable well.

He referred to the remarkable feat of Sapper S. Kelley, of the Australian Imperial Force, at Suvla Bay, in the Gallipoli Peninsula, in the First World War, who in the course of a week located and erected pumps over thirty-two wells, which yielded sufficient water for the whole force at that spot.\*

In Australia, Mr. Leaf had several experiences of water divining to tell us. For instance, at a place near Perth, he was the guest of a Mr. Gerruish, a well-known grower of grapes, who related how his vineyards in a year of drought had been saved by water divining. In a local saloon a stranger walked in who, and to earn the price of a drink, successfully located a glass of beer amongst a number of empty glasses! Mr. Gerruish was so struck by this feat that he decided to resort to water divining to save his vineyards. He accordingly engaged two dowsers at different times, who located the same spot independently, to his great relief and satisfaction.

Mr. Leaf also mentioned experiments he carried out with the help of Colonel and Captain Porritt in New Zealand, the feats of a Mr. Smith of San Antonio in Texas, of himself, at Oraibi in Arizona, and of Dr. C. L. Sharp, of Forth Worth, Texas, who was employed by the police for tracing criminals.

As an example of psychometry, Mr. Leaf described how he discovered the foundation plan of an ancient chapel near Padstow, using fragments of stones which had formed part of the building. Another case was that of an Italian boy, who had disappeared from his parents' home. In June, 1945, an English soldier of the Royal Tank Regiment was stationed near their home, and had been befriended by them; so he sent an object belonging to the boy to Mr. Leaf who stated—correctly as it turned out—that the boy was still alive, and would return shortly, slightly unwell. The soldier took the earliest opportunity of visiting the parents who told him that the boy had returned that morning with slight stomach trouble.

Under the heading of precognition were the correct foretelling to a lady at Newcastle Emlyn of her election to the municipal

\* An account of this episode was printed in *The British-Australasian* of February 24th, 1916, and reprinted in *B.S.D. J. X*, 74, p. 105.



council, and the birth of a baby girl to a married lady, living in New York, whose mother did not even know that her daughter was pregnant.

## DOWSING WITH THE ANGLE ROD

(Address given by Mr. E. P. WILSON, A.M.I.Mech.E., to the British Society of Dowsers on January 13th, 1938)

*Reprinted from B.S.D.J. III, p. 117*

About four years ago I saw a diviner walking over some fields holding a pair of angle rods. Being interested in water supplies, and thinking this was a new idea of divining, I tried to obtain some information from him, but without success. Whilst observing him at work, I noticed that the rods would swing together and cross now and again, and when this happened a stake was put in the ground. This more or less confirmed my views that it was a new idea for locating water; at least, I had never seen this method used before.

I had used a twig for divining on occasions, and although this would work with me, there was always a doubt as to whether the pull was due to water or some subconscious thought.

The angle rod as used by the diviner seemed to be a better method of dowsing, and to a great extent foolproof as compared with the twig.

I first used them myself in Gloucestershire to locate water on a very large estate where water was being carted from a distance of three miles. Several boreholes had been put down in the area, but only a few were successful, and the area was recognised as being very bad for underground water supplies.

There was a well on the estate about 175ft. deep, but this was waterless.

After walking a few yards on one of the fields, I noticed that both the rods turned about 30 degrees, both pointing in the same direction. I then changed direction and followed the points of the rods until they crossed, *i.e.*, both rods swinging towards my body. This spot was a long way from the house, so it was decided to trace the stream in the hope that this ran towards the house. This was done by using one rod only, in the right hand, and holding the palm of the left hand downwards, and following the point of the rod. It was found that the supposed stream ran to within fifty yards of the house and only a few feet from the existing well, 175ft. deep.

The proprietor was rather dubious, especially as the existing well was dry, but agreed to bore to a greater depth, and was willing to bore on the assumed line of the stream instead of from the bottom of the well.

The borehole was put down and at 95ft. below surface a supply



TABLE I

	Site	Strata in Feet	Depth of Borehole in feet	Width of influence in yards	Yield in gallons per hour	Remarks
1	West London	London Clay . . . . . 188 Woolwich & Reading Beds 60 Chalk . . . . . 243	500	4	6,000	
2	Middlesex	London Clay . . . . . 110 Woolwich & Reading Beds 57 Chalk . . . . . 283	430	5	3,600	Water not lowered. Could have obtained 10,000
3	Watford	Gravel . . . . . 15 Chalk . . . . . 185	200	4	6,000	Could have pumped more
4	East London	London Clay . . . . . 86 Woolwich & Reading Beds 83 Chalk . . . . . 281	450	3	6,000	
5	South Sussex	Folkestone Beds . . . . . 100	100	8	38,000	
6	South Essex	London Clay . . . . . 86 Woolwich & Reading Beds 138 Chalk . . . . . 126	350	6	8,000	Could have pumped more
7	South Wales	Sand and Gravel . . . . . 30 Red Marl and Stone . . . . . 7	37	5	2,600	Could probably have pumped 7,000
8	Bucks.	Oxford Clay . . . . . 30 Blue Clay . . . . . 30	60	2	1,600	
9	Berks.	Sand and Rock . . . . . 29	29	2	1,000	
10	Mid Kent	Sands . . . . . 140	140	8	66,000	



11	North Herts.	Chalk . . . . .	100	4	6,400	
12	South Herts.	Clay, Woolwich & Reading Beds Chalk . . . . .	300	8	22,000	Could have pumped more
13	Beds. . . .	Chalk . . . . .	150	6	15,000	
14	Norfolk . .	Chalk . . . . .	400	8	5,000	Overestimated
15	Kent . . . .	Chalk . . . . .	200	10	60,000	Could have pumped more
16	Bucks. . . .	Clay and Stone . . . . .	100	1	250	Other wells in area all dry
17	Cambridge .	Chalk and Marl . . . . .	100	4	3,100	Overestimated
18	South London	London Clay . . . . . Woolwich & Reading Beds Chalk . . . . .	600	8	40,000	
19	Herts. . . .	London Clay . . . . . Woolwich & Reading Beds Chalk . . . . .	800	6	200	Total failure
20	East Kent .	Chalk . . . . .	250	12	60,000	Could have pumped much more
21	Sussex . . .	Wealden Clay . . . . .	400	2	Almost Nil	Failure
22	Norfolk . .	Chalk . . . . .	200	7	20,000	
23	Middlesex .	London Clay . . . . . Woolwich & Reading Beds	288	4	3,500	
24	East Essex .	London Clay . . . . . Woolwich & Reading Beds Chalk . . . . .	450	4	6,000	



of over 3,000 gallons per hour was struck, whereas the existing well, 175ft. deep, was dry.

My next endeavour was in Northamptonshire. A well existed about 60ft. deep, but no supply could be obtained. The strip of land was very narrow, but about one mile long. I walked the whole length, but the rods only crossed once, and this was 20ft. from the existing borehole. The people concerned were willing to speculate, and a borehole was drilled.

At 45ft. below surface a supply of 5,000 gallons per hour was obtained, whereas the well 20ft. away and 60ft. deep was dry. The water was eventually led from the borehole into the well by an adit, and pumping has been going on day and night since.

At this period I was unable to give any idea of the quantity or depth, but since have kept a record of some of the sites divined with the angle rods and the results obtained.

So far I have not been able to obtain the depth with the angle rods, but still do this with a twig, *i.e.*, by holding this on the level with the top of my head and bringing it down until it turns. If the twig turns when on the level with the top of my head, the water is just below the surface, if on the level of the eyes, 100ft. below surface, or the chin, 200ft. deep, and so on. This will probably vary with individuals.

My forecasts for depth made with the twig have been about 70 per cent. accurate, but at the same time I always use this method with care, taking into account the geological data.

To arrive at an indication of the quantity with the angle rods, the centre of the stream is marked and the assumed width of the stream obtained by walking at right angles to the stream from both directions and marking the points where the rods begin to turn. The distance between these two points is then measured, and this in several cases has given the yield fairly accurately.

The foregoing table shows some of the results obtained, and in every case the site was divined before the borehole was drilled. In all I have made 54 locations, of which only two were failures.

From the above results the following table has been compiled, which has been found satisfactory in several cases in determining the yield.

TABLE II

Grade of Stream	Approx. width of Influence	Approx. Yield expected
A1	over 8 yards	over 25,000 gallons per hour
A	6 to 8 "	15,000 to 25,000 gallons per hour
B	5 to 6 "	10,000 to 15,000 "
C	4 to 5 "	6,000 to 10,000 "
D	3 to 4 "	4,000 to 6,000 "
E	2 to 3 "	2,000 to 4,000 "
F	2 "	1,000 to 2,000 "
G	1 "	below 1,000 "



## MY DIVINING EXPERIENCES

BY WALTER HAWKER

*Reprinted from B.S.D.J. III, p. 123*

Some of my fellow diviners may be interested in my work, so I am sending you an account of my experiences, though I am only an amateur in this science, and so it is rather like a blind man groping his way along an unknown street.

Divining was brought to my notice twenty-nine years ago, and after testing out a diviner, I came to the conclusion there was something in it. I first started to work with a forked stick, but finding it very difficult to obtain such a stick with both arms equal in strength, I tried a piece of No. 6 gauge galvanised steel wire, about 40in. long, bent to a V shape. This I found most satisfactory for locating water, but not for following a stream. To do this I use an L-shaped piece of wire.

When approaching a stream the short arm of the L always starts to move; on reaching the edge of the stream it moves up against the current, till, at the centre, it becomes parallel with the stream. As soon as the centre of the stream is passed, the short arm moves towards the centre. When this happens I walk out thirty or forty yards and back to the centre of the stream, and where the short arm starts to turn is the other side of the stream. After finding the centre the short arm gives the direction for following the stream, and if I move even one yard to the side the rod swings a little to the centre. I have followed streams over ten miles, and bored on them with success.

To go back to the V-shaped rod. When approaching underground water up to about 3oz. of salt, Epsom, or glauber salts, the rod moves upwards; but for all minerals and heavily mineralised water the rod pulls down.

It has never been difficult to find water in Australia, but so far the real trouble lies in determining the quality of it. To do this I hold a test tube in my mouth while crossing a stream. I have tubes containing from  $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. salt and a few grains of Epsom salts up to 3oz. or more of salt and about  $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Epsom salts to the gallon of water. I go on trying tubes with different amounts of minerals till one is found to neutralise the action of the rod. I then conclude that the water underground and in the tube are about the same quality. This method works perfectly in some districts, including my home station, but is useless in the dry, arid country 300 miles north-east of Adelaide.

It is also difficult to find the correct depth. To do this I take the centre of the stream, walk out at right angles to it for about 100 yards, turn, and walk back slowly towards the centre, holding the V-shaped rod firmly till it begins to rise. I then measure from this point to the centre of the stream, and that gives me the



depth. This method works like a charm in my own home country, but as soon as I go away into another district I find it useless.

I have since worked on a method mentioned in your Journal, and proved it successful. I stretch a wire at right angles to the stream on pegs, and move the V-shaped rod over the wire until it ceases to rise. From that point to the centre of the stream gives the depth. My estimate, working on this system, has never varied a foot from the depth at which water has been found.

My rod will only work for moving water, not stagnant. It moves for water running in a pipe, and this movement is apparent for two or three hours after the tap on this pipe has been turned off.

When I am working metals and wish to find out which one it is I start with gold and put some on my head. If this stops the rod working I conclude gold is below, but if gold has no effect I try other metals till I find the one which neutralises the working of the rod.

For the first sixteen years of divining my results included over 300 successful wells and bores, and after that I did not trouble to count them. On my northern property, where the average rainfall for the last eleven years has been under five inches, out of seventy bores put down, in only seven is the water usable for stock. In the rest the water is abundant, but too salt to use, so if some method to determine the quality accurately in "dry" country can be devised it will effect a great saving.

The personal equation counts largely in divining; methods with which one man has success will not work with another. Each of us has to work on lines that give the best results in his own case, and always try to learn from other people's methods and successes.

At present I am working on Henri Mager's methods, and later hope to give you the results of my investigations.

\* It is much to be regretted that the author of the above article died in 1953.—  
EDITOR.



## NOTES AND NEWS

In *Sussex Notes and Queries* for November, 1960, there was an account by Major Pogson of his long and careful examination of the possible sources of the water supply to the famous Roman Villa at Bignor, in Sussex. Without a map it would not be easy to follow the description of the locality and its features from the point of view of an adequate supply from past or existing flows, but Major Pogson came to the conclusion that the water was probably derived from a well on the line of a subterranean stream, which he traced running north and south under the villa.

Captain Tupper, the owner of the farm on which the remains of the villa stands, has stated in a letter that some years ago an experienced dowser traced a stream at a depth of 70 feet below the south-east corner of the "Ganymede" room—so called from the design of its tassellated pavement—and Captain Trinder (see *B.S.D. J.* XV, 107) located water at a depth of 14 feet at a point on the high ground to the north of the villa.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. F. E. Bramley writes in a letter of December 28th, 1960: "I once after the war found a solitary pearl for the wife of a Major W. at Walton, Leicestershire. The daughter had been putting them on while her mother was out. She broke the string and the pearls, which were valuable, shot all over the place. She found them all but the centre one and her mother was very cross. She asked if I could find it as they had searched all over. I used one for a "sample" and got no response downstairs, but my rod would insist on pointing upwards. I went upstairs into the bedroom towards which my rod pointed. When I got in, the rod pointed to the wardrobe door. On opening the door they saw the pearl inside on the floor. It had rolled off the bedroom floor through a crack under the door.

\* \* \* \*

In the *Irish Times* of October 4th, there is an illustrated article describing how Miss Catherine Bent, of Cornwall, stated to be "England's only full-time professional dowser," tried to locate an old spring at the Dublin Zoo which used to provide a supply of cheap water which is badly wanted. There was a tradition that up to 100 years ago there was a spring not far from the site of the seal pond. Miss Bent is said to have got reactions for water in a small copse near the seal pond at 80 to 100 feet and a smaller spring possibly at a depth of 30 feet.

(It is strange that the Dublin Zoo should go to the expense of importing a water diviner from England when there are several highly competent dowsers in Ireland.—Editor).

\* \* \* \*

A reporter of *The Western Mail* described in the issue of September 27th, an interview with Mr. John Evans, of Llanddewi,



who dowses for water by remote control. When he visits a farm to look for water he selects a possible site then finds a "lumper"—small boy—rubs the boy's hands on the whale bone rod and sends him round the field. When the boy reaches water the stick in Mr. Evan's hands whips downwards.

Evans has located Roman remains near Llandrindod Wells and can detect anything provided he has the appropriate sample.

\* \* \* \*

In the weekly *Country Diary*, by Major J. Fairfax-Blakeborough, M.C., in the issue of the *Whitby Gazette* of December 15th, there is a paragraph headed a "Whitby Dowser." Amongst dowsers mentioned are Councillor O. Stones, of Arkengarthdale, well known as a successful water diviner—as also was his father; and Mr. F. E. Bramley, formerly of the B.S.D. and still a contributor to our journal.

\* \* \* \*

An article entitled " ' Magic ' Eye City's Rates " in the *Daily Express* of December 17, 1960, states that " a city has brought a space age ' magic ' kit so that its engineering staff can see underground." The instrument, which is called the " Revealer " and is sold for £68 10s., appears to be an elaborate and embellished form of the familar angle rod which can be made by anyone from a bit of thick wire and of which there has been frequent mention in our journal for the last 28 years. However, this expensive model is apparently in use by the city engineer of Hull and by the council engineers of Bolton and Blackburn.

\* \* \* \*

In a recent letter, Mr. Warren D. Smerud, of Seattle, writes: " One evening several years ago, my plumber friend, Harlam Nelson, of Milners, North Dakota, was, as a result of much insistence on my part, demonstrating the action of a dowsing rod to a sceptical mutual acquaintance. The demonstration took place in a plumbing shop owned and operated by Harlam, together with his father and brother. The area in which the demonstration took place was well lighted. Prior to the demonstration, a young and extremely amiable dog belonging to Harlam's brother was lying quietly on the floor. However, as Harlam commenced with his demonstration the dog rose to his feet and, as the rod began to dip, stiffened and began to growl. The animal remained in this hostile pose and continued his growling until the demonstration was completed. Whether this is the typical behaviour of dogs in the presence of a dowsing operation, I do not know."

\* \* \* \*

With the permission of the Editor of *Prediction* the following paragraph is reproduced from his Editorial on page 7 of the issue for November, 1960:



Readers of the *Water and Waste Treatment Journal* probably blinked a bit when they reached page 69 of a certain issue and saw an article entitled "Divine Power." They perhaps wondered whether the editor had become a little obsessed with the notion that cleanliness is next to godliness.

But the title is in fact a pun worthy of—well, never mind.

The article is by Mr. P. Dendy, Engineer and Surveyor to the Evesham Rural District Council, and is about divining, not only water, but also underground pipes.

Mr. Denby writes: "The power to divine water has only been given to a very few . . . the power to divine underground pipes appears to be possessed by about one person in three . . .

"In my area the location of old sewers, service pipes and water mains is carried out by divining whenever there is a doubt as to the exact point at which to open up to expose the particular underground service required."

Telling how a local farmer wishes to locate and inspect all his old service pipes, Mr. Denby says:

"He was provided with a couple of pieces of wire, and a couple of minutes' instruction and he went off happily and located every pipe on his farm.

"He still does not believe it, he says, and I must say I don't know whether I do either. However, I still go on divining whenever the occasion arises and have not been wrong yet."

\* \* \* \*

The following letter is reproduced from *American Astrology* of September, 1960, with the permission of the Editor :

#### THE LOWLY POTATO

*San Francisco Examiner*

July 14th, 1942

This is an underground story, folks. It has nothing to do with war, spies or politics. It concerns the simple potato, the magic of the potato. I have by accident uncovered three remarkable stories in connection with the potato. I shall give names and places, so lend an ear, please.

Recently I spent several weeks in Atlantic City, at the Hotel Chelsea. There, in the evening, I passed many hours in philosophical, political and gastronomical discourse with the scholarly and cosmopolitan-minded proprietor, Joel Hillman. One night when the moon flooded the terrace overlooking the sea our conversation somehow made a dive into rheumatism, arthritis and other infernal aches. Mr. Hillman pulled a little potato from his pocket, saying, "Carry one like that and you'll have no twinges. It cured me of arthritis pains and has cured two of my waiters, one of whom was on crutches."

"Sounds like old witch stuff to me," said I, superciliously.

"There is much to be learnt in what you call old witch stories. In them there is buried the ancient Wisdom. The potato cure is



very simple. The potato is of the earth. The earth is a very wonderhouse of hidden magnetic and curative forces. All curative drugs come out of the earth. Now, the potato for some reason that no one knows is a magnet for all these hidden curative waves in the earth. This potato which I hold in my hand is becoming petrified in my pocket. It has drawn magnetically every ounce of pain from my joints. You say that you too have twinges from time to time. Howard (turning to a waiter), bring Mr. Casseres a small potato."

When I came back to New York one of the first persons I met was Ted Saucier, commander-in-chief of the Waldorf-Astoria. The conversation turned to aches and twinges. Somewhat sheep-faced I pulled the potato from my pocket and related what Mr. Hillman had told me, with many a quavering doubt in my voice. Then came my second surprise.

"Nothing is truer. I had a wart on the side of my nose and several on my hands. I rubbed raw potato over the warts several times a day and they completely disappeared," said he.

The upshot of the whole matter is, I've become a potato disciple of Joel Hillman and I carry a young murphy in my clothes and so help me, Jupiter, I haven't had a twinge since I began the "cure."

*Benjamin Cassares*

(The use of potatoes as a cure or palliative is well known to many members of the medical profession, but has not been explained. It has obviously no more to do with Radiesthesia than the use of a piece of wire wrapped round a limb for similar purposes.—Editor.)

\* \* \* \*

The following is an extract from a letter dated November 27th, 1960, to Mr. Noel Macbeth from Mr. Glenn Synder, of Beechwood, N.J., U.S.A.:

"Received announcement of the Third Annual *Water Dowsers' Convention* that was held at Danville, Vermont, U.S.A., on Saturday, October 1st, 1960. Chairman is Reginald E. Smith, Danville, Vermont) . . . plan to convince a doubting public of the value of dowsing and the accuracy with which it can be used. The form letter states that *last year* some 100 dowsers and 'would-be' dowsers met and registered . . . a good number were 'novice' dowsers and all expressed an interest in the formation of a permanent society to enable them to have a clearing house for ideas, experiences and instruction and a source of information . . . Raymond C. Willey, of Schenectady, N.Y., U.S.A., held a 'clinic' for new dowsers and demonstrated various devices . . . Ventured to hill location and conducted actual dowsings to spot locations of claims to actual water, depth and rate of flow . . . good representation of the press and four different newspapers gave coverage to the actual dowsing and interviewed several of those present . . . A Steering Committee was appointed (J. R. Gardner, H. G. Kabell, J. W. Mooney, R. S. Plimpton, Alonzo Taplin, R. C. Willey, R. Curtis, R. Smith . . . desire to expand into every state. Above comments is what happened 'last year' according to form letter."



## REVIEWS

### RADIONICS, THEORY AND PRACTICE

*by*

JOHN WILCOX, M.A., BARRISTER AT LAW

HERBERT JENKINS, 1960: pp. vi., 127; 13/6

An admirable book, clear, concise and very informative. Having said that, one must remember that it is a handbook, written by a sincere believer in the new science who lives close to its application, and not a critical study of the subject. This makes his treatment of preamble and theory, so free from dogmatism, the more praiseworthy. If it be found at all sketchy, the author admits it and he is never afraid to leave gaps where, he says frankly, facts to fill them are still unknown. Indeed, the value of the book to any radiesthetist is twofold: as a guide to the "Box," and as a clear expression of fundamental views becoming common to more and more radiesthetists. In this respect the clarity and humility with which hypotheses are proposed is a welcome contrast to many of the books already on our shelves.

What adverse criticism there is concerns omissions. Thus, it is a pity that in the section on Abrams there is no mention of the Horder Report of 1925 with its definite result and astonishingly weak handling.

In dealing with the treatment of animals, there is nothing to suggest that veterinary work is not part of every radionic practitioner's daily routine and no mention nor warning is given of the Act of 1948 which made such treatment illegal by anyone but a vet. This chapter as a whole is the one disappointment in the book, for, following the expressed theory of the unity of all life, more could have been made of it, particularly in view of some of the illustrations. Incidentally, these are plentiful, uniformly excellent and worthy of a higher priced work.

A bibliography and subject index are included, both commendable inclusions in a book of this size and price, but, to be captious, the bibliography (or, rather, Reading List) could have been lengthened and strengthened. Books by Lakhovsky, Eeman and Bach are not included, though all three are mentioned in the text; while Tromp and Davson are expensive and heavy going for the reader whom this book, in its content and price, is expressly intended to reach.

Had the publishers only been able to get the book out before the de la Warr case came to court, the learned judge, counsel and the public at large would have been saved much confusion. J. B-P.



## LA RADIESTHÉSIE POUR TOUS

OCTOBER

p. 291. Ancient symbols.—In this article Homer Charbonneau, of Montreal, Canada, reproduces a panel comprising sixteen drawings or symbols dating back at least 16,000 years, some of them having their origin in Mexico (see *The Children of Mu* by J. Churchward, p. 73). These strange drawings are of bird-like form. The writer says that our ancestors knew how to give these symbols a "field of force," as witness Yin-Yang, Pa-Koua, etc., while today most radiesthetists know how to profit by these curious figures. He found to his astonishment that in his examination of organs, some of these symbols reversed the pendulum gyrations. In making an analysis he places the panel in front of him. If an organ is deficient, his pendulum gives a negative gyration. With his free hand and employing a finger as antenna, he points successively to each symbol, until he finds one which reverses the pendulum gyration. If several do this, he has to decide which is the most effective. To treat an affected organ, he makes a drawing of it and incorporates with it a witness of the sufferer (a drop of blood or hair); he also makes a tracing of the symbol and places it on top with its face downwards. One is surprised, he observes, at the force which the symbol releases.

p. 293. Radiesthetic applications.—Following numerous requests by readers, this article outlines new and supposedly promising avenues of radiesthetic research. It is said, for example, that experiments are being undertaken for controlling rain through radionics. And we are told that since before the last war one radiesthetist knew by pendulum that boron would be employed one day in the manufacture of new motor fuels. Artificial fertilisers are being produced by impregnating powders or liquids by means of "emitters of waves," and sometimes by numbers—or even words! They are said to be very active. But in the view of the writer of the article, better results will be obtained in agriculture by means of radionics.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 295. Active witnesses.—W. Herrineckx describes simple experiments designed to show that photographs and other witnesses of people are activated and can be used to affect the physical condition of such people. His first experiment is to take a witness of a person other than a photograph (such as blood or saliva) and erect at exactly 1m. 60cm. to the east of it a more or less old photograph of the same person taken when he was in good health. The photograph is turned in the direction of the other witness. If one measure the radiations of the subject, the writer says, one finds that his measurements increase rapidly, showing that a definite action is taking place.

p. 297. In your prospections, learn as much as you can about them first.—Because amateurs sometimes have brilliant successes in prospections about which they know little, this does not mean that there is no advantage in knowing as much as possible about a prospection before undertaking it. On the other hand, the professional may well have certain fixed ideas about what a prospection should reveal, which may vitiate his results.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 299. Health and vitality.—A. Vandenhoff, founder-director of *C.I.E.R.*, outlines influences prone to affect health in this modern age, such as atmospheric pollution by carbonic acid gas and the products of combustion, the increased activity of bacteria, which seem to have



become in a sense radioactive and are as a result more difficult to deal with by orthodox methods of treatment, the effects of nuclear fission, and so on. In the article he reproduces diagrams which in his opinion can be employed for combating such influences.

p. 303. Good instruments are necessary.—This article begins by stating that it is wrong to suggest that one can do everything by thought without instruments or accessories. First, because the influences which we seek to detect are only rarely mental and belong most often to a kind of micro-physics which does not affect ordinary laboratory instruments, that does not mean that they have no physical characteristics. It goes on to say that in dowsing for water, although you bring into action your general, and even subconscious, sensitivity, this sensitivity will have to reveal the influences of water. Such influences of a physical nature are brought into play, as can be proved already by laboratory instruments. In fact a complex integration of different actions is involved. Accessories other than just a rod or pendulum may be necessary to complete a prospection.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 304. Chess-board puzzle.—The diagram of a chess-board is reproduced so that each square can be identified by a letter and a number. An actual chess-board has been laid out near Brussels and certain objects placed on certain of the squares. Readers are requested to identify what objects are placed on which squares and to send in their results.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 307. The ray of matter and of health.—Matter, this article by Bernard Paulet begins, acts not only by direct contact, but also at a distance through electro-magnetic waves emanating from it and forming a train of waves in both directions with the bodies which surround it, whether near or far. From this a new science and a new system of healing will evolve in the near future. The writer tells of a friend who, he found, was damaging his health by wearing a leather belt with copper buckle during office hours and when facing west. The friend was advised to give up the belt and to carry a bag of bitter-sweet and one of gauze steeped in cod liver oil at specified places on his person. The pain he had been suffering from went and his general health improved.

p. 309. The Wheel of "Cobra."—A previous article on this by Jean Martin appeared in *L.R.P.T.* for August, p. 239. Among other tests, he describes in the present article how he cured a case of tonsilitis, which made it painful for the patient to turn his head. Pointing his left hand towards the patient's tonsils, he selected the influence required from the Wheel of "Cobra" with his right hand, transmitting it via his left hand to the tonsils. The pain disappeared in twenty minutes. But a sensitive spot remained at the base of the tonsils, which disappeared after several hours. The hands of the operator touched neither the patient nor the apparatus, being held about 5cm. away.

p. 311. Compass of the blind.—Louis Declercq gives a diagram of the hands, showing how each finger syntones with a point of the compass.

p. 317. Do you wish to become a really good radiesthetist?—Whether you do so or not depends to a great extent on yourself, as "Apollonius" infers in this article.

p. 318. Radiesthetic materialisations.—This essay by F. and W. Servranx deals with the ability of the radiesthetist to gather informa-



tion of a physical nature, regardless of space considerations. You can, they say, detect a predetermined influence and isolate it from others which exist at the same place by a physical process, by mental selection, or by means of a word-witness: "*All these processes are equivalents*" (the italics are the writer's). They add that the word-witness has a close connection, as much physical as a natural witness, with what it signifies. It acts very strongly when placed on a decagon.

#### NOVEMBER

p. 323. The test of Szondi.—W. Servranx outlines a method of discovering psychological tendencies in a person invented by a Hungarian, Dr. Szondi, who finds how the subject reacts to photographs of individuals, each representing a single specialised mental type. The writer suggests ways in which the pendulum could assist the psychotherapist in work of this nature.

p. 327. The string circuit.—L. Declercq postulates a zone of sensitivity in dowsing work, which consists of the space in front of the operator above the navel. Certain prospectings, he says, are difficult or even impossible when they apply to the study of objects situated below this sensitive zone, such as a photograph lying on a low table. In order to overcome this disability, the writer recommends a string circuit, consisting of an uncoloured piece of string or twine (nylon will not do) put round the operator below the navel and outside his clothes.

p. 329. A child of radionics.—Mme Valeria Peretti-Brizi tells us of a young recently married Italian girl whose parents were in despair because there was no baby, and how she remedied this state of affairs through radiesthesia. She had a small photograph of the girl and employed anatomical charts and various diagrammatic witnesses. She also interrogated the I-King (the Chinese *Book of Mutations*). In due course, Mme Peretti-Brizi was informed by telephone that the girl was going to have a baby.

p. 333. A glance at medicine of the future.—Jean Martin believes that radionics as practised today is a pointer to medicine of the future. Up till now, he says, study of the human body has allowed us to understand its machinery and functions, but we always ignore the forces which animate it. He believes that energy drawings will be employed for maintaining healthy organs, and in this connection he tells the following story. A boar seven months old had no sense of smell and never sniffed. At the request of his owner a special diagram was made, which was designed to act on the nasal mucous membranes, not by antiseptic or medicinal action, but by charging them with the influences of the normal organ. This diagram was employed by direct action, it being placed 1.50 m. to one side of the animal, and it was also used to impregnate his food. Less than 48 hours afterwards the boar began sniffing, and from that moment changed completely. What part, the writer asks, can autosuggestion play in such a case? The cure was permanent, and it is stated that the boar came to put himself quite on his own within the field of action of the diagram. In the article are reproduced a number of strange-looking diagrams designed to give off the influences of various organs and glands.

p. 337. Chemical analysis by fundamental ray technique.—It is stated that the fundamental rays of the constituents of a substance can be found by using a 360° protractor of 60 to 100 cm. diameter. But it



is necessary to orientate the substance both vertically and horizontally before starting the exercise. It must be found by pendulum which is the top and which the bottom of the sample, which must be held in position, if necessary by cotton wool. The sample must also be orientated correctly vis-à-vis, the earth's magnetic field. So positioned, the substance acts as a radiesthetic compass, so that a pendulum held above it oscillates N-S. In this position of greatest activity, the substance or sample should be placed at the centre of the protractor. The writer then goes on to explain how, by the use of colour samples, a true analysis of a substance or compound can be made.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 339. The nose as detector.—F. Servranx discusses possibilities with regard to the way in which the nose detects odours and influences, it having been postulated in the past that smell is not only a matter of the transfer of odiferous particles, but also radiation—which would explain the apparent sense of smell of insects and animals over long distances. The writer further suggests that the nose may be sensitive to etheric substance, referred to by the Hindus as "Prana."

p. 341. Health and vitality.—This article, by A. Vandenhoff, follows on that appearing in *L.R.P.T.* for October (p. 299), and in it he gives four further examples of basic energy-diagrams, which complete the series. The diagrams are designated as archetypal symbols, and they concern respectively solar, lunar, planetary and cosmic-telluric influences.

p. 345.—The air we breathe.—This article emphasises the importance of the air we breathe and the advantage of getting into the fresh air every day for a spell.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 347. Experiments with a paper-weight.—On account of its weight, a paper-weight can be useful for carrying out some simple radiesthetic experiments. With the paper-weight held in your hand (your right hand if you are right-handed and your left if left-handed), your arm held naturally in front of you and *without a pendulum*, the paper-weight will feel heavier as you walk round an object or a person.

The point where this extra weight is felt is on the line of the fundamental ray of the object or person. If you turn clockwise and then anti-clockwise, you will discover two different points of reaction. If you leave the paper-weight on a table or on the ground and walk round it, this time holding a still pendulum in your hand, at the same time wishing the pendulum to react when you are to the north of the paper weight, the pendulum will immediately begin to gyrate at this point, which will indicate magnetic north. The sole advantage of the paper-weight is its mass, and any other heavy article would serve equally well. H. Rahier, the writer of this article, goes on to describe other exercises of a similar nature. A heavy weight such as a paper-weight can be employed to depth a stream. Place the weight immediately over the stream and attach to it a ball of thread. Run the thread out on the ground at right angles to the stream. A reaction will be felt at a distance along the thread equal to the depth of the stream. With suitable samples you can determine the nature and depth of the strata lying over the stream, the stratum immediately above it being represented by the section of the thread furthest away from the weight.

p. 349. Subtle forces in health.—W. Herrinckx thinks that herbs or plants cultivated by a sufferer may help him more than those cultivated elsewhere, since he has been so closely associated with those he



has grown himself. He tells of a patient who learnt through the indiscretion of a friend that his case had been pronounced incurable (this was before the war when such a fact was seldom revealed to a patient). The sufferer decided then and there to prove this diagnosis wrong and, after living a number of years, died of old age.

#### DECEMBER

p. 355. A radionic rule.—This rule, described by Homer Charbonneau, of Montreal, Canada, is presumably called "radionic" because it can be employed for action at a distance. It is made of hard wood, 35 cm. long by 35mm. wide and 30mm. thick. A groove runs along the middle of each side which enables a copper cursor to slide along the length of the rule. Positions relating to the primary colours (as found on a Universal Pendulum) are marked on the rule and the diagram of a Yin-Yang is found at one end. For use the rule must be orientated N-S. Briefly, if a subject is suffering from a liver condition and the colour wanted for its amelioration is yellow, a drawing of the liver with a witness of the subject is placed at the yellow marking. It is stated that the rule can replace the Universal Pendulum for research into the primary colour characteristics of objects or individuals.

p. 357. Placebos as "word-remedies."—Referring to an article in *Figaro Littéraire* on medicine of to day by Professor Jean Barnard, the writer of this article contends that the placebos has its place in medicine. Moreover he says that homoeopathic doctors (of whom Professor Barnard apparently does not approve) believe that their placebos, consisting of pure granules of inert powder in the 35th potency, help to sustain the action of a remedy when it is desired to space out repetitive doses of it.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 361. "Flying stations."—L. Hommel raises the question of noxious radiations which might be received from scientific stations of the earth satellite variety situated 25 km. up in the earth's atmosphere, and suggests means of protection for the individual or residence by means of a colour technique.

p. 363. String-circuits.—This is a further article by L. Declercq on string circuits, in which he says that digital polarities can be reversed through the use of colours, which would be of special value to radiesthetists for purposes of research. And he suggests double string-circuits for further modification of hand and digital polarities.

p. 365. World events.—A diagram is reproduced which can be used, according to the writer of the article, for forecasting the kind of developments that will take place in any month of a particular year and in a specified country, according to the sphere of activity chosen.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 368. Mental strain.—W. Herrinckx considers that mental strain, often thought to be due to overwork, is above all psychic and is a result of the subject's attitude to his work or position. Treatment by using the personal number has been effective in such cases, but this number may change each day, and the subject may not be a radiesthetist. The writer goes on to say that a method described by Mr. H. O. Busby in *L.R.P.T.* for September, 1960, can be adapted for the treatment of these cases, the personal number being found by mental orientation and written down inside several concentric circles, according to pendulum indications. The diagram made can be used in several ways, such as treatment at a distance, impregnation of water, and so on.



It is rare, the writer adds, for it to be necessary to change the number while the cure is taking place.

p. 371. Concerted experiments.—Suggestions are made for the benefit of radiesthetic circles for experiments whereby two or three persons co-operate. For instance, three people may try to locate a hidden object. The first holds the pendulum in one hand and the wrist of the second person with the other. The second person holds one of the wrists of the third with his free hand and the latter can hold a witness of the object sought in his free hand.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 373. New researches of "Cobra."—Jean Martin reproduces diagrams which can be used for radiesthetic exercises, following the work of "Cobra."

p. 377. Primary truths and concrete realities.—A. Bernard gives a short disquisition on the character of radiesthesia as it affects human beings. It is, he says, not a doctrine but a known technique. It is praiseworthy to seek to understand the process of its utilisation, but it would be more useful to understand man and his possibilities, ignoring orthodox psychology and seeking in man latent potential faculties which radiesthesia is capable of developing and amplifying.

p. 379. The 100° disc.—After admitting doubts about statements in the book *La Radiesthésie* by Canon Lucchini, H. Rahier refers to the 100° disc, with which (he affirms) you are able to measure your own radiesthetic aptitudes. You might equally well describe this as potential or cosmic force, as the precise nature of what is measured is not known. Whatever reading is found, it will be neither constant nor invariable. A good radiesthetist, well-trained in researches on water, shows a reading, according to the particular day and hour, of from 75 to 90. On the other hand his aptitude for searching for lost persons varies from 30 to 45. For reliable water dowsing, M. Rahier finds that an aptitude of at least 80 on the 100° disc is required, and that a reading of at least 65 should be stipulated for satisfactory prospections into the whereabouts of lost persons.

p. 381. Wood, ideal accessory to magnetism and intention.—"Apollonius" recalls that Puységur (1751-1825), one of the most fervent disciples and admirers of Mesmer, had the idea of replacing Mesmer's accumulator tub by a strong elm tree on the Busancy estate. Cords fixed to the branches enabled numerous patients to be treated at the same time. He goes on to say how good pendulums are when made of wood, these being especially helpful to beginners, as indeed are rules made of wood. Wood, he affirms, manifests memory in some way, for rules and other radiesthetic accessories made in wood give more constant results.

p. 383. Prospection with two pendulums.—If you hold two exactly similar pendulums, one in each hand, and if that held in the right hand feels heavier, you are right-handed. With the pendulum held in the left hand feeling heavier, you are left-handed, and you should make this your pendulum hand. If each pendulum behaves in exactly the same manner, this is probably due to autosuggestion. It is suggested that two pendulums may be of use in map dowsing. Also, when using a disc or a rule, you can hold the lighter-feeling pendulum over the witness and the heavier-feeling one over the disc or rule. The result, it is stated, is much more precise than when simply placing the free hand on the witness.—*L.R.P.T.*  
V.D.W.



## BOOKS AND APPLIANCES

Anyone having a copy of *The Physics of the Divining Rod* to dispose of is asked to inform the Editor.

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Books on *Radiesthesia*, English and foreign, can be obtained from the Markham House Press Ltd., 31 King's Road, London, S.W.3. A catalogue will be supplied on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

Copies of *Dowsing*, by Pierre Béasse, are available at 23s. 6d. (\$3.50), and the Schumfell pendulum mentioned therein at 115s. 0d. (\$17.00), and the descriptive handbook at 1s. 3d. (\$0.25); also, clear and black plastic pendulums at 11s. 6d. (\$1.90), and 10s. 0d. (\$1.80) respectively, and beechwood pendulums at 4s. 3d. (\$0.80)—all post free; also on sale are *The Pendulum*, the monthly review of Radiesthesia: Subscription 26s. at home and \$3.80 in North America; *Elementary Radiesthesia*, by the late F. A. Archdale, at 5s. 4d., and a new edition of *Radiesthesia and some Associated Phenomena*, by T. T. B. Watson, M.B., B.Ch.

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*Elementary Radiesthesia* can also be obtained from Mrs. Archdale, 3 Wayside Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth, Hants, as well as a variety of pendulums of wood, plastic, and ivory on nylon threads.

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The Radiesthesia Research Centre, 28 The Mount, Guildford, Surrey, provides courses in Energy Therapy, orientated to Radiesthesia, also radiesthetic apparatus of all types made to individual order.

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The "Link" divining rod described by Mr. Guy Underwood in his article on Spirals and Stonehenge (*B.S.D.J.* 62, Dec., 1948) can be obtained from him at Belcombe House, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts., price 8/- post free in U.K., also old type "Oasis" rod, 10/-, in case; also "Oasis" supersensitive rod, 21/-. Reprints of this article are available at 2/- each. Reprints of 10 Essays on water-divining and archaeology, 15/- the set.

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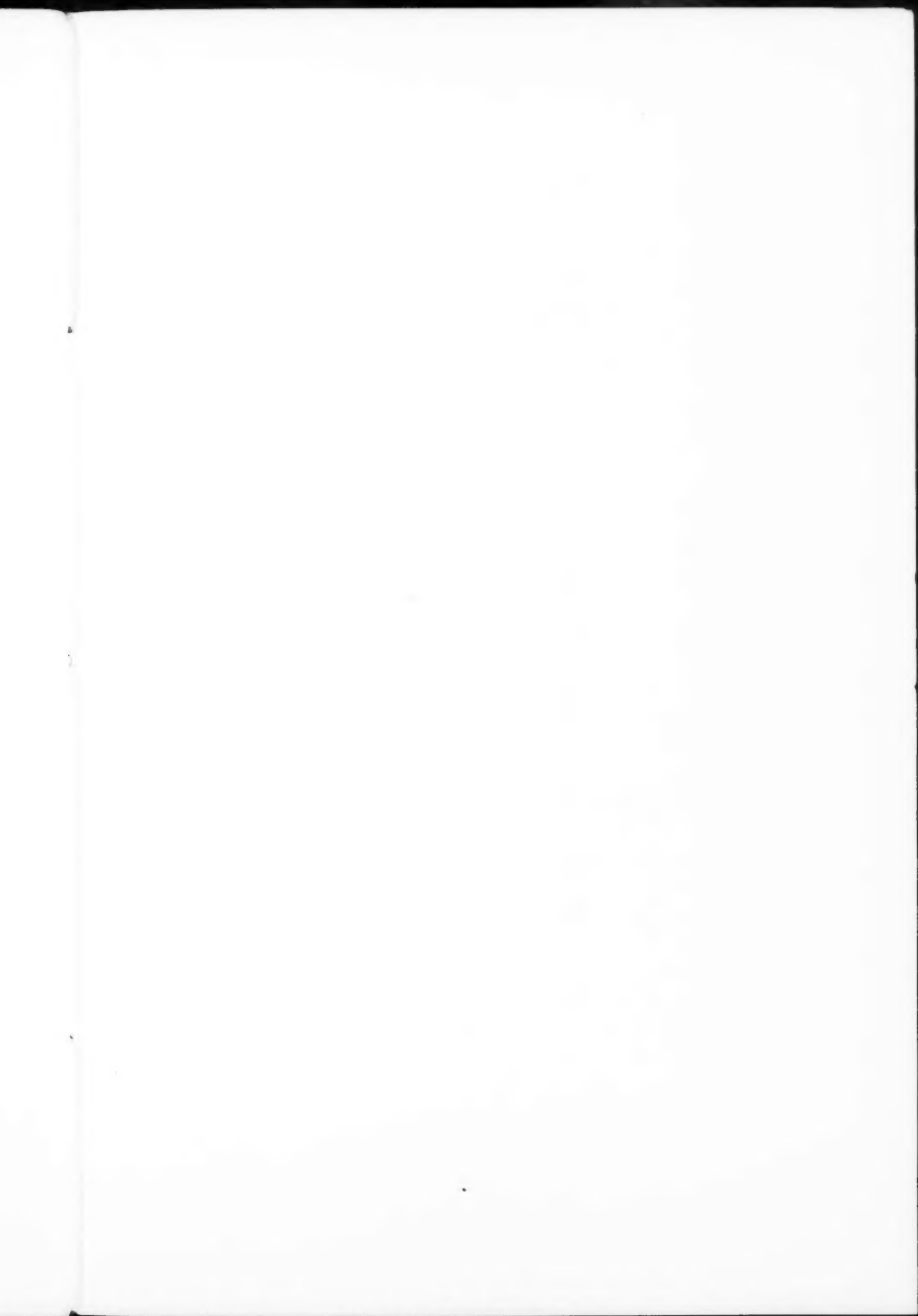
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